

Britain decides to tread softly over EEC rebate

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, reporting to Parliament yesterday on the latest Brussels talks about differences in the European Community, gave the first public confirmation of the Government's decision to do nothing which would put it in open breach of EEC law.

He told MPs it was bound to be difficult to reach agreement on fundamental reforms of the kind being discussed, which would determine the Community's future for many years ahead. For this reason, Sir Geoffrey added, "the Government believes that it is our interest to take no action that might damage the prospects of decisive progress".

The decision was confirmed when ministers met yesterday morning to review the state of negotiations after the foreign ministers' council on Tuesday. It reflects the Government's unshaken conviction that the Community's incipient bankruptcy will generate automatic pressure to make a settlement of Britain's budget rebate inevitable.

To threaten the withholding of Britain's share of the Community's "own resources" is seen as unnecessary and ill-considered.

However, the Cabinet committee did discuss what financial sanction to apply if the atmosphere deteriorates. It appears to have agreed provisionally that its best step would be to block payments to Brussels out of the special Treasury E.C. No. 1 account.

Failure preferred 6
Kohl challenge 6
Leading article 13

are high. But it was clear that some ministers are content it should be known they are ready to use rougher tactics, if put to it.

Sir Geoffrey, meanwhile, confirmed what MPs have expected: that the contribution of £100m, which is due from Britain on April 20 but which the commission wanted paid this week, is not to be paid early.

Since the refunds due to Britain and West Germany remained blocked, he said, the principle justification for the advance had gone.

Mr Gaston Thorn, the European Commission's president, said in Strasbourg that he feared the action by the British Government would sour relations.

● STRASBOURG: The European Commission had braced

itself, even before the summit, to face the possibility of Britain withholding payment of some of its contributions (Jan Murray writes). Its official spokesman issued a statement insisting that, even if it happened, the Community was in no immediate danger of running short of money.

Britain is, so far, merely refusing to pay a regular instalment one month early. The commission had asked for this to be paid to meet a seasonal surge of agricultural expenditure and help pay for the promised rebates to Britain and West Germany.

The rebates were meant to be transferred by the end of this month, but as failure at the summit meant the money has been blocked Britain can argue there is no need to pay money in advance to meet an expenditure which is not going to happen.

Ultimately Britain could be held in default for not paying the money on time and be required to pay interest at the highest EEC current rate, the 20 per cent level in Greece.

Britain failed to pay a similar early instalment last year, because it was asked for during the general election when there was no Parliament to pass the enabling legislation. It was asked to pay £2,003,815.21p in interest, but refused to pay. Britain does not consider such requests for early payment constitute a Community obligation. It will obviously fight any demand for interest on the instalment it is now refusing to pay early.



The Queen and the Duke with King Hussein and Queen Noor before yesterday's picnic by the Dead Sea.

Israel's expansion depresses Queen

From Christopher Walker, Amman

The bitter politics of the unresolved Arab-Israeli dispute yesterday dominated the third day of the Queen's controversial tour of Jordan and threatened serious repercussions for her meeting with President Chaim Herzog of Israel next week at Windsor Castle.

During a lengthy briefing on a Jordan valley farm from Crown Prince Hassan, King Hussein's younger brother, the Queen described as depressing a map detailing Israel's ambitious plans for expanding Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank, conquered from Jordan during the 1967 war.

The briefing was within sight of the occupied Palestinian town of Jericho and followed earlier remarks at a state banquet during which the Queen spoke forthrightly about what she described as "the tragedy of the Palestinians" which she said had afflicted Jordan more than any other country.

As the two royal parties were talking yesterday, the rumble of jets was clearly audible in the sky above and members of the Jordanian group identified the planes as Israeli. Both Queens then stared up into the sky and Queen Elizabeth could clearly be heard to say: "How frightening." Jordan's Queen Noor replied: "Appalling."

The Queen was personally driven to the Arab farm by a dapper King Hussein, who spent much of the day at the wheel of a bullet-proof Mercedes in an unusual royal gesture which graphically reflected the hostility being offered to the British party.

The Oxford-educated Crown Prince, who is Jordan's expert on the settlement issue, explained in detail Israeli intentions to increase the number of Jews living on the territory won from Jordan to 1.4m by the year 2010, by which time the number of West Bank Arabs is expected to be only slightly more than 1.6m.

Using a map originally drawn up by Mr Meron Benvenisti, the former Israeli deputy mayor of Jerusalem (whose research on the resettlement drive was warmly praised) the Crown Prince explained that the true number of settlers today should be counted as 140,000, not the approximate figure of 30,000 usually used.

He told the Queen this was because of the Jews also living on Arab territory in east Jerusalem, annexed soon after the 1967 conflict. The Queen listened attentively as the list of alleged Israeli malpractices in the West Bank was outlined.

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Benn accuses picket police

By Philip Webster and Paul Routledge

Mr Tony Benn last night accused the police of acting outside the law in the miners' dispute using "snatch squads" to attack men outside collieries and hauling people unconnected with the mining industry from their cars.

He was asking the Commons for an emergency debate on the conduct of the police, a few hours after the Labour Party's national executive committee had blamed the "massive police presence" for contributing to violence.

The political divide over the dispute was widened as the executive, of which Mr Benn is a member, backed a motion proposed by the chairman, Mr Eric Heffer, demanding that the rights of peaceful picketing and freedom of movement be upheld by the police.

The motion said the action of the Home Secretary and other ministers in "permitting the police to arrest bus drivers and miners' pickets from Yorkshire, Kent and elsewhere was a serious breach of the 'traditional and normal practices of the country'."

Mr James Mortimer, the party secretary, said after the executive's meeting, that most pickets had been peaceful and good-tempered.

There had been some disorder, which had been more than generously reported, but the motion made clear the executive's belief that the police presence had contributed.

He added: "Mass picketing is not intimidation."

Later in the Commons Mr Benn said he had reports from Derbyshire that the police had set up roadblocks, arrested 40 miners driving vehicles miles from their collieries and com-

pelled passengers to abandon them.

Conservative MPs protested when he added that miners had been prevented from peaceful picketing at pits where they worked and that police were attacking miners outside collieries.

He said the police action had no statutory backing and they were anticipating powers in the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill which was not yet law.

The Speaker, Mr Bernard Weatherill, refused Mr Benn's request for a debate.

ON PAGE 2

Motorway pickets change of tactics

The TUC general council yesterday condemned "strong-arm tactics by the police" in the strike and urged the Government to intervene so that negotiations could be resumed between the coal board and the National Union of Mineworkers.

There were fewer arrests on the picket lines because striking miners found it difficult to penetrate the police cordon around coalfields where men have voted to work normally. However, the switch of strategy towards French-style motorway blockades brought the total of arrests to nearly 300.

While miners were testing the effectiveness of policing, their leaders were divided over whether to hold an emergency meeting of the union's national executive which alone can call a secret pithead ballot on an all-out stoppage.

Moderate coalfield leaders are petitioning for the April 12 routine executive meeting to be

Continued on back page, col 1

British diplomat shot dead

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Mr Kenneth Whitty, the British Council assistant representative in Athens, was shot dead by a gunman as he drove through central Athens yesterday. The motives of the killing are still obscure.

Miss Artemis Economidou, one of three British council women employees travelling in the car, was reported to be clinically dead in hospital last night. The second passenger was unharmed and gave a statement to the police, but the third ran away.

Mr Whitty, aged 44, took up his British Council post in Athens a year ago. He was also on the British Embassy's diplomatic list as first secretary for cultural affairs, as is customary for British Council officers in many posts. He was married and the father of four sons, all of them in Britain.

Police said he was driving his car, which had diplomatic plates, after leaving his office on his way home when a gunman shot him in the head twice through the open driver's window.

Two other bullets went through the body of the car. Mr Whitty is believed to have died instantly.

A shopkeeper, who heard the shots and ran to catch the assailant, said the man dangled his revolver after firing his first shot. One account said he was a "dark-skinned" man.

Police are investigating two possibilities: That it was a case of mistaken identity due to the green diplomatic plates on the car, that Mr Whitty was killed as a "soft target" because he would not be expected to have any protection.

Nil inflation predicted by Lawson

By Sarah Hogg

Inflation may fall to zero within the next five years, according to Sir Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Giving evidence on his first Budget to the Treasury select committee of MPs yesterday, Mr Lawson also gave a strong hint that he will move cautiously in future budgets towards the removal of further personal tax reliefs.

"I would not like this committee to go away with the illusion that I am dedicated to removing all the distortions in the tax system," he said.

Mr Lawson also implied that child benefit, on which "no decision was announced in the Budget but not this year be raised by much more than the rate of inflation."

Defending his new financial strategy, which shows inflation falling only modestly to about 3 per cent by the end of the 1980s, Mr Lawson said that it was easier to get inflation down from 15 to 5 per cent than to reduce it further.

The Government's long-term spending plans showed inflation falling to zero within 10 years, but that was not a target but an "underlying assumption."

Stable prices, he said, might be achieved within the five-year period covered by the financial strategy, and "I would not weep if it was."

Mr Lawson was cautious in the discussion of further changes in the tax structure. He dismissed the idea of introducing tax relief on all forms of personal investment, of the kind operating in France, by saying it was extremely expensive.

Defending his decision to attack the poverty trap by raising income tax allowances rather than further real increases in child benefit, Mr Lawson said that 29 million families or single people were helped by higher tax thresholds, but only six million by child benefit.

Jardine moves legal base from Hongkong

By Philip Robinson

But the surprise news caused immediate apprehension among the Hongkong financial community about the future of Hongkong when the lease runs out in 1997.

Analysts said the announcement could at least temporarily undermine confidence, slowly rebuilt in recent months to its steady level in two years.

Jardine's pretax profits dropped 55 per cent in 1983 to HK\$567m (£50m). Its total dividend was halved to 40 cents (3p). Its 36 per cent-owned subsidiary, Hongkong Land, disclosed an attributable loss of HK\$1.2 billion (£113m) against HK\$500 (£44.2m), and cut its dividend from 26 cents to one cent.

Hongkong Land also wrote off HK\$6.2 billion (£548m) from its balance sheet, reflecting lower property values, provisions against development properties and the sharp fall in the share price of Jardine Matheson, of which it owns 25 per cent.

The news was released in Hongkong after the markets had closed for half a day. Reaction in the two share prices is expected when trading resumes today.

In London yesterday, Jardine's price dropped 11p to 104p, after touching 160p earlier this year.

Jardine and Hongkong Land agreed interlocking share deals three years ago to stave off anticipated attacks from the new breed of Chinese entrepreneur.

Panic in Sri Lanka

Colombo (AP) - At least seven people were killed and 25 seriously wounded when Sri Lanka Air Force troops opened fire from a lorry, on a crowd in the Tamil-speaking Northern province yesterday.

Officials said the troops had earlier escaped an ambush attack.

The killings occurred just before noon and as the news spread panicked the city of Jaffna, the centre of the Sri Lankan Tamil separatist movement.

Hundreds of people were killed in the racial violence which gripped Sri Lanka last July and August.

Continued on back page, col 6

Treasury asked to pull £1m out of hat

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

What have a magician from Manchester called Chantel, a private detective in Chippenham and a repairer of violins, violas and cellos got in common?

The answer lies in one of the Government's most successful schemes for cutting the unemployment lists. And a decision on whether there will be many more Chantels in the future depends on high-level ministerial discussions.

Employment ministers are pressing for extra funds for the Enterprise Allowance Scheme, which is designed to throw up a new breed of entrepreneurs, but so far there has been resistance from the Treasury.

The scheme will cost £66m in the next year and help 35,000 unemployed people set up their own businesses.



Mr David Young: extra £1m needed.

Whitehall is confident that the businesses are well-founded although there is some embarrassment about funding a Kissogram enterprise in the South-west. Other ventures have included a man who flies an aeroplane trailing advertising banners and a host of window cleaners, garage mechanics and hairdressers.

The scheme is open to anyone who has been unemployed for 13 weeks and can prove that he or she has £1,000 to invest in the new enterprise. If their business idea is approved, they receive £40 a week for a 12-month period to compensate for not being able to claim either unemployment or supplementary benefits.

Difficulties have arisen because of the scheme's success. Waiting lists are on average 15 weeks long although there are regional variations. In west Wales prospective tycoons have to wait up to six months to receive approval, for their ideas.

The Manpower Services Commission, led by its chairman Mr David Young, is pressing for funding for a scheme which provides 50,000 places a year and would cost less than £1m a year extra.

Mr Young has the backing of ministers at the Department of Employment, for a boost to the scheme but so far the Treasury is resisting the increase in its drive against extra public expenditure. Treasury forecasts show that £29m has been budgeted for the scheme in the year 1985/6.

That would mean total spending on the scheme would amount to £130m since its started in earnest last July following five successful pilot schemes in various parts of the country.

Supporters of the scheme argue that the Treasury is showing a streak of meanness in resisting allocating such a small extra amount and that it ill behoves a Government committed to free enterprise to prevent more Chantels stepping out on to stages of northern clubs.

Ministers fail again in Brussels

Tomorrow

Old stones
Architecture is going back to its roots.
Spectrum reports



Rose red stones
Christopher Walker with the Queen in Petra
Unwanted stones
Friday Pages discovers how the West is eating its way to death
Milestones
Philip Howard seeks out a list of greatest writers Miles per hour
Before the Grand National
David Miller talks to Jenny Pitman, trainer of last year's winner, Corbiere

Extra £8m in deal on shipyard

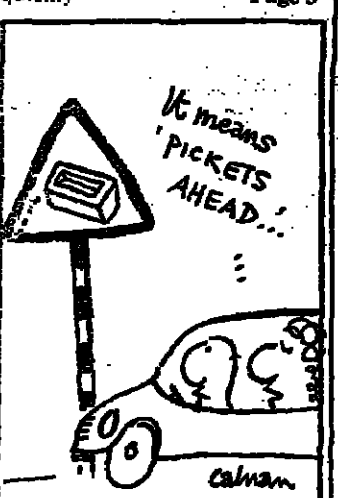
Scott Lithgow shipbuilding yard will be sold to Trafalgar House for £20m. The Scottish Office announced the deal only hours after the Commons was told that the selling price was £12m. The extra £8m is for the company's assets and added to confusion over Whitehall calculations. Leading article, page 13. Business News, page 15.

Hart victory

Senator Gary Hart's chances in next week's crucial New York primary were boosted when he defeated Mr Walter Mondale handsomely in Connecticut. Page 6.

Pay squeeze

Middle managers are falling behind on pay as salaries of executive, professional and administrative staff in the private sector rise more quickly. Page 3.



Harare curbs

British links with Zimbabwe are likely to be strained further by tough measures in Harare to stop the drain of foreign currency. Page 5.

Israel poll date

Israel has set July 23 as the date of its general election. Israeli troops have been accused of killing six Shia villagers in southern Lebanon. Page 6.

No test option

Scottish motorists breath tested for drink-driving offences with the Camic instrument will not be given the option of blood or urine tests, the Commons was told.

Allison goes

Malcolm Allison became the 21st manager to be dismissed this season after a conflict with the Middlesbrough board. It was his tenth managerial post. Page 23.

Leader page, 13
Letters: On CAP, from Mr G H Peters and Mr S E Ludlow; space dangers, from Mr J Critchley. MP, Tisdall case, from Lord Hunt and others.
Leading articles: The EEC; Mitterrand's trip; Scott Lithgow Features, pages 10, 12.

The real reasons for the Government's battle with town halls, by William Waldegrave; Outfoxed in the war between hunters and saboteurs: Arrogance and Miss Tisdall; The Times profile of Sir Ernest Gombrich.

Obituary, page 14
Sir Herbert Thompson, Mr Ian Stephens
Books, page 11
Michael Ratcliffe reviews Stephen Koss's second volume of *The Rise and Fall of the Political Press*, Shakespeare on Anthony Burgess and other fiction of the week: Robert Nye on Sissen, Auden, and other poetry. Appointments, pages 25-29. Nearly five pages of recruitment advertising.

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'Somebody will be killed by a motorway picket' police say

By Craig Seton

Senior police officers yesterday condemned the striking miners' new "motorway picketing" tactic as criminally irresponsible and a danger to life.

There were four such incidents in Derbyshire and South Yorkshire in which scores of cars were slowed to snail's pace.

Last night the police were trying to persuade officials of the National Union of Mineworkers to abandon the tactic. Mr Tony Clement, South Yorkshire's Assistant Chief Constable (operations), said: "This is a most dangerous thing. Certainly if it carries on some one will get killed - there is absolutely no doubt about that."

We have got to take very firm steps to prevent it happening again and if we have to detail a lot of police officers on to the motorway network, we will do so.

His comment came after two particular incidents. On the M1 on the South Yorkshire-Derbyshire border on Tuesday night two hundred miners in fifty cars and vans slowed traffic and then abandoned their vehicles.

Angry motorists confronted them, scuffles broke out and eight people were arrested. One policeman was hurt when he was dragged by a car.

In the other incident yesterday morning in fog a section of the dual carriageway A38 south of Derby had to be closed during peak-hour traffic when more than 100 miners slowed their vehicles to walking pace before being intercepted by the police. Forty miners were arrested for alleged obstruction.

The police said more miners drove fast and then slowly in another incident on the M18 near Rotherham, but their convoy was quickly intercepted.

Mr Tony Leonard, an assistant chief constable in Derbyshire, said: "There was fog and ice and road conditions were not at all good. We were already dealing with a number of accidents at the time."

The tailback was quite frightening, and it put in jeopardy the safety of the public who were using the road.

Few unions members are willing to discuss motorway picketing, but it appears to be a frustrated response to the success of the police in keeping mass pickets at bay at collieries.

Mr Jack Taylor, the Yorkshire miners' leader, denied last night that the union was officially organizing the motorway pickets.

He said on radio that the tactic was not to be condoned, but he said the police had to look at their own actions before condemning others.

Further evidence of the split in the union came yesterday. Mr Roy Otley, secretary of the union's Midlands craftsmen, and a national executive member, who joined in Tuesday's meeting of union moderates, was confronted by more than 100 of his own power group members at his Stoke-on-Trent offices.

They were furious at his part in the meeting's call for a national ballot. Police cleared the building and allowed in a small deputation to see Mr Otley.



Police halting carloads of pickets on the M18 near Rotherham (Photograph: David Muscroft).

Roadblocks force a change of tactics

By Barrie Clement

Our car left the M1 and headed for Mansfield. Outside the town we were stopped at a police road block.

"Have you heard what I was telling the other lads?" the police constable asked.

"No," our driver, one of three flying pickets from Yorkshire, replied.

"We know you are peaceful pickets but if you carry on you will be arrested because you are liable to cause a breach of the peace," the policeman said.

"That seems to be a contradiction in terms. We are peaceful pickets but we are liable to cause a breach of the peace," Mr John Stones, a branch official of the National Union of Mineworkers from

Frickley colliery, near Doncaster, remarked.

The driver, Mr John Pickin, checked again. "Is it true that if I just go to Mansfield, I will be arrested?"

"Aye," a sergeant replied.

Such conversations combined with the unprecedented police presence and the constant possibility of arrest are causing a change in tactics by leaders of Yorkshire's militant flying pickets.

Mass picketing across the border in moderate Nottinghamshire, second only to Yorkshire in coal production, is being stifled by roadblocks and a vigorous interpretation of public order laws by the police.

Drivers of cars thought to contain pickets are being told they will be arrested if they ignore warnings to turn back.

French-style motorway blockades are difficult to sustain because of increasing police vigilance.

As long as the security strategy is maintained, Yorkshire miners are likely to turn their attention to power stations, railway depots and ports.

The police action is bitterly resented by miners trying to picket, a fact which emerged during a day spent with them.

The day began at 7.30am, outside the National Coal Board's Doncaster regional headquarters. About 300 miners faced 600 policemen.

Several arrests were made during scuffles with police, and impromptu human barricades formed across the roads. In every case the blocks were quickly dispersed by jog-trotting policemen.

Our convoy left for Clipstone colliery passing police observers at intersections and cross-roads. At one stage we drove three abreast down the M1 at around 30mph.

Whatever the effectiveness of police action it is fast depleting the £100,000 union has allotted for picketing.

A plea for extra government cash to help the Humberside Chief Constable meet some of the cost of coordinating police operations in the dispute was rejected yesterday by Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Home Office.

MPs talk their way to a record

By Richard Evans

One Liberal, six Labour and a dozen Conservative MPs will walk into the House of Commons committee corridor at about 7pm today, having secured a new entry for the Guinness Book of Records.

Their claim to fame will be that they will have completed 59 committee sessions - averaging two and a half hours each - examining just one government Bill.

On November 17 last year the MPs first met as a standing committee to examine the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill.

Since then, they have debated 776 amendments and 20 new clauses, and have seen the Bill reprinted twice. Tonight's session, the last, will break the previous record of 58, held by a committee examining the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Bill nearly a decade ago.

"It has become an embracing on one's life. You eat, sleep and even dream about it," Mr Eldon Griffiths, Conservative MP for Bury St Edmunds, says.

As parliamentary adviser to the Police Federation, he claims to have spoken at every one of the meetings to date.

Not all his colleagues appear so enthralled. "It has been five months and, by God, it has been a long five months," sighed Mr John Wheeler, Conservative MP for Westminster North.

It is incredibly tedious to be on a committee which grinds on an on, month after month,"

Even Mr Gerald Kaufman, who has spearheaded Labour's attack and was a minister on the committee which holds the existing sittings record, will not be seen to the end of the committee stage, despite claiming to have obtained at least 50 concessions from the Government.

Meanwhile, the one MP who has escaped much of the detailed debate is Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, whose Bill it is.

Tomorrow: How the Bill has changed

Correction

An article on March 17 cited new fee levels for barristers of £350 for jury trials and £150 for guilty pleas. These are the new maxima per case; actual fees paid are on average half, or less, of these sums.

Council tenants owe £240m, report says

By Hugh Clayton, Local Government Correspondent

Thousands of council tenants owe a total of £240m in rent, the Audit Commission reported yesterday. It said that the total debt had risen faster than increases in rents and some money would probably never be recovered.

The rent collection system in some councils is "chaotic", the commission says in its first detailed report since it was set up by ministers last year to press for value for money in local government.

Its conclusions come a fortnight after the Building

Societies Association reported that the number of people in arrears on mortgage repayments had also risen sharply.

The commission said that money owed by tenants added up to enough to build thousands of new council homes which would in turn stimulate the creation of thousands of jobs for building workers. The survey included an analysis of the tone of reminder letters sent by London borough councils to their defaulting tenants.

The commission agreed that the scale of arrears was related to the extent of social deprivation. In some cases the cost of sending staff to find the missing money might exceed the amount of rent recovered. It insisted, however, that the management of the rental system by councils was the "key determinant" of arrears.

Authorities which considered "well-managed" often had far lower arrears than those facing similar social difficulties. The amount of arrears owed throughout England and Wales had more than doubled in the past two years and the problem

has remained concentrated on London.

There are almost 800,000 council homes in the capital and the number of tenants in arrears rose by 90,000 to 350,000 between March 1981 and September last year.

The commission cannot name councils in such reports without their permission, the result is that all those it considers efficient are named in the report while those with large arrears outstanding are not. Council Tenants' Arrears Stationery Office £5.25.

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Poll puts Labour just one point behind Tories

The Labour Party is gaining on the Conservatives in popularity, according to a MORI opinion poll published yesterday.

The poll, in *The Standard*, London's evening newspaper, shows that 41 per cent of those questioned would now vote Conservative. Labour is close behind on 40 per cent.

Labour has gained two points since a similar poll was conducted last month, at the expense of the SDP/Liberal alliance which now stands at 17 per cent.

Labour has been steadily creeping up on Conservatives

since immediately after the General Election when the Conservatives stood at 44 per cent and Labour at 28 per cent.

But observers would have expected Labour to have been less sluggish in catching up, especially when the Government is embarking on policies, notably ratecapping, which affect some of its most loyal supporters.

According to these figures, the Conservatives would win a general election now, but would not secure an overall majority.

Meanwhile Mr Neil Kinnock has drawn level with the Prime Minister

British strike record in middle rank

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Britain still loses many more working days through strikes than industrial rivals such as Germany, France, the United States and Japan, but Italy, the Irish Republic, Spain and Canada fare a good deal worse.

The latest comparisons, published yesterday in the March issue of the Department of Employment's *Gazette*, show that in 1982 Britain lost 250 working days for each thousand workers, compared with 133 in France, 13 in Japan and only one in Germany. But Italy easily topped the league table with 1,108 days lost per 1,000

employees, followed some way behind by Canada (548) and the Irish Republic (511).

On a longer-term comparison, Britain keeps its middle ranking among 18 countries, with an annual average of 532 days lost per 1,000 employees between 1978 and 1982. This was above the EEC average of 426, but the UK figures are inflated by the exceptional number of strikes in the 1979 "winter of discontent".

Italy again had the worst strike record with 969. Japan narrowly beat Germany

£55m sell-off hope for Bristol docks

By Tim Jones

Bristol City Council is to sell off more than £55m of prime land and property to relieve ratepayers of the burden of the docks which use more than half their rates.

And as the plans are laid, management and union leaders will meet in London today to try to solve a pay dispute which is driving trade away from the port.

Since September, ships sailing out of Avonmouth have been delayed either by labour shortages or industrial problems and some companies are threatening to leave the port for good.

Geest, which centred its banana trade at Avonmouth has returned to Barry, South Glamorgan, and the Laming Mowlem ARC consortium, which is building the new

Falklands airport says it will stop using the port unless it receives good service.

Although there have been protests that the city is selling its birthright, the council believes that only by wiping out the debts can the port ever hope to become profitable.

Without the sale, council officers say that the rates would have to be increased by 100 per cent within two years, inviting penalties under the rate-capping legislation.

Last year the Port of Bristol, the biggest municipal docks in Britain, lost more than £11m. Of that £28m was the repayment on loans for the £40m construction of the Royal Portbury Dock which was opened by the Queen in 1977.

Designed to take Bristol into the next century, its opening



Mr Robin Howell at Avonmouth: "Let the docks die."

coincided with a worldwide slump in shipping, soaring interest rates and a general move away from west coast ports as trade with Europe increased.

The council believes that with the slate wiped clean the port has a chance of succeeding but some councillors are convinced that it will always be a liability.

Mr Robin Howell, leader of

the Liberal group said: "The docks should be allowed to die. It was a brave decision for Bristol to go it alone but the gamble has failed. City councils should be building homes

Mr Bob Trench, Conservative leader of the council, said: "We have cleared the capital debt of the port and it is now up to the men and management to prove that it can work."

Sale room

Haydn manuscript fetches £151,200

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The manuscript of two movements of a Haydn Mass in D minor, unpublished and apparently unperformed, was sold at Christie's yesterday for £151,200 (estimate £20,000 to £25,000). The 16 pages written by Haydn in 1768 came to light in an attic in Northern Ireland last year, having been considered lost.

Christie's would not name the purchaser but he is believed to have bought the Mass as an investment. The seller is also unnamed in Christie's catalogue, but is Mr John O'Neill McGillock, the grandson of the second Lord O'Neill.

It was only after he had consigned the manuscript to Christie's that his sister, Mrs

Annette Firth, heard of the discovery. She is suing her brother in the High Court for a half share of the proceeds.

A sketch book kept by Mendelssohn on his trip to Scotland in 1847, during which he visited Fingal's Cave, the inspiration of his overture of that name, was included in the same sale. It sold for £70,300.

The Archives Nationales, the French state library in Paris, was left the underbidder on a three-page draft by Louis XVI, in his own hand, of the speech he was to give to the Estates-General on June 23, 1789, the king's last defence of himself before the Revolution. It was sold to a private collector in Switzerland at £45,360 (esti-

mate £20,000-£25,000). Two volumes of John Milton's poetry published in Boston in 1836 secured a remarkable \$110,000 (estimate \$100,000-£130,000) or £75,342 at Phillips in New York on Tuesday. The secret of the price lay in the extensive pencil annotations by Herman Melville, author of *Moby Dick*.

Sotheby's yesterday completed its sale of the collection of M. Hélène Anavi, making an overall total of £4,665,595, with only one lot unsold. Leslie Waddington paid £19,800 (estimate £5,000-£8,000) for Mme Anavi's *Visitors' book* which included signatures and drawings by Braque, Cocteau, Dubuffet, Ernst and Man Ray.

Liberal plan to avert Liverpool cash crisis

By David Walker, Social Policy Correspondent

A survival budget to keep Liverpool's social and other vital services operating will be presented at today's emergency council meeting by Sir Trevor Jones, leader of the Liberals and former leader of the council.

The Labour proposal for a minimal rate rise and spending up to £100m or more in excess of revenue is likely to be defeated today. However, the council will start running out of money within weeks unless an alternative is accepted. The Jones plan is the only other option being offered.

The plan, a series of ingenious financial manoeuvres requiring large scale sales of city assets and a rate increase of up to 20 per cent, might prove acceptable to the Conservatives and the nine Labour councillors likely to oppose their party's deficit budget.

Standing in the office above his busy ship chandlery business, Sir Trevor yesterday teased out the details of his plan which requires cuts in overtime by council employees and the sale of £10m worth of council owned properties. But there would be no cuts in services, he said. Some concessions by the Government would be necessary to make it work, for example, disregarding money spent by the council on certain inner-city projects.

Sir Trevor, now in his mid-50s, a former dock and the single-handed author of the Liberals' political success in Liverpool in the 1970s, said his budget was the only way to stop Labour extremists "delivering the city ultimately into the hands of callous Thatcherites".

Sir Trevor plans in the event of a failure today to agree a budget to requisition another emergency session of the council. By then, he said, "people more concerned with the future of the city than that of the militant tendency would come forward from Labour's ranks to support my plan".

● An EEC commission report ranks Merseyside among the poorest regions in the European Community. Another £10.5m was spent on radioactive waste management.

Walker hint at axe for atomic authority

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The possibility of a break-up of the UK Atomic Energy Authority was foreshadowed yesterday by Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy.

In a parliamentary answer he said a review had begun of authority's role and activities, including whether its relationship with his department remained appropriate.

The authority showed an expenditure of more than £211m for 1982-83 and its financing is criticized in a report from the Comptroller and Auditor General which the Public Accounts Committee propose to examine on Monday.

The Authority's work has altered considerably since its establishment in 1954. Groups working on military-related projects, including the Atomic Weapons Research Establishment, Aldermaston, have been absorbed into the Ministry of Defence.

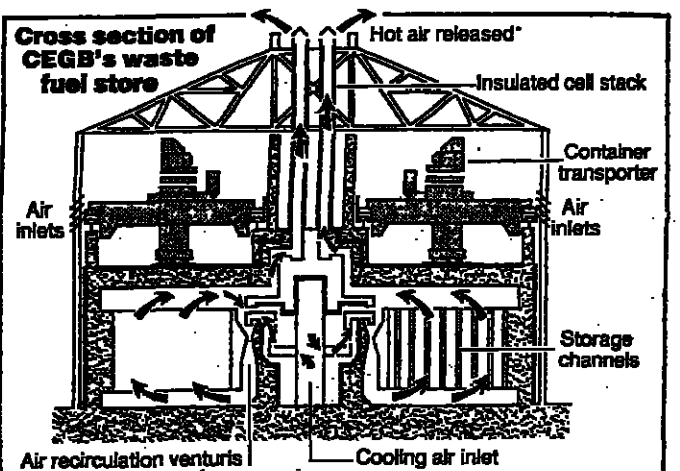
Research into and development of new types of thermal reactor have finished. The completed designs have been taken over by the Central Electricity Generating Board.

The main activity, and the one that is most heavily censured by the Auditor General, is the development of the fast breeder reactor which began in 1951 and is costing more than £100m a year.

The authority had difficulties in achieving reliable operation of the prototype fast reactor, whose construction started in 1966. That trouble is a reason given for the failure to gain support for a commercial version of the fast breeder reactor.

Because of the delay, changed economic circumstances mean that fast reactors are not expected to be required for commercial use until early next century.

In addition to fast breeder work, the authority spent £44m on the safety of reactor systems related mainly to studies of possible accidents in pressurized water reactors such as that planned for Sellafield. Another £10.5m was spent on radioactive waste management.



Doubt over how Sizewell waste will be handled

By Our Science Editor

Doubts about how the radioactive waste from nuclear power stations will be handled have emerged in the past two days at the Sizewell public inquiry. The uncertainties became apparent in cross-examination by the Town and Country Planning Association of experts of the Central Electricity Generating Board, which is responsible for safety and waste.

The association is one of the main objects to the plan to build an American-type pressurized water reactor costing £1,200m on the Suffolk coast.

It is particularly concerned about what happens to nuclear waste now that dumping of low level waste at sea has been suspended; about plans to create storage vaults at Billingham in Cleveland and Elstow, Bedfordshire for intermediate waste; and about the ultimate fate of high level waste, which is active for thousands of years.

One idea is a possible £7m bunker at Sizewell to store low level and intermediate wastes, the association's representative, Mr John Blake said.

According to board estimates, the Sizewell reactor would produce about 180 cubic metres of low level waste a year. Most of this would be packed into steel drums and taken to a site at Drigg, Cumbria, where British Nuclear Fuels buries low level waste from Sellafield.

About 50 cubic metres of intermediate waste - comprising broken control rods, flux detectors, drive cables and other engineering components that become highly irradiated - would be packed into shielded drums.

The board says: "No disposal route is currently available for these wastes". But those are also some of the objects which Billingham and Elstow were intended. An alternative would be a concrete blockhouse at Sizewell.

High level waste would be replaced each year and stored at Sizewell for at least five years, before being transferred for reprocessing at Sellafield.

Ripper to mix with women

Peter Sutcliffe, the Yorkshire Ripper, was assessed by doctors yesterday on his first full day at Broadmoor hospital after being moved from Parkhurst prison because of his deteriorating mental condition.

Sutcliffe's assessment is expected to take several months, after which treatment will be decided. He lives in a bright, newly-decorated room, with bed, table, chair and lavatory, a more congenial environment than at Parkhurst.

Like most patients, he will be expected eventually to mix with others, including women, but under close supervision.

Sutcliffe was sentenced to life imprisonment in May 1981 for murdering 13 women and attempting to murder seven others.

Thatcher 'will not sue MP'

The Prime Minister will refuse to rise to the challenge offered by Mr Brian Sedgemore, Labour MP for Hackney South and Shoreditch, that she should sue him for allegations he has made over her interest in the Oman university contract.

Whitehall sources said yesterday. Meanwhile, another nine Conservatives have signed the backbench Commons motion supporting Mrs Thatcher, leaving about forty non-signers.

Belfast graduate remanded

A second graduate from Queen's University, Belfast, was remanded in custody in the City yesterday accused in connexion with the murder last year of Mr Edgar Graham, a law lecturer and official Unionist Assemblyman.

Mr James Morrison, aged 23, an electronics supervisor, of Carmel Street, Belfast, is accused of withholding information about the murder and preventing the arrest of those responsible.

Mr Morrison was charged with the murder of Mr Graham, a law lecturer and official Unionist Assemblyman.

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Rate-capping concession rejected

By Our Local Government Correspondent

Authorities, said that the concession was meaningless because the trigger point on which it was based was to be fixed by ministers.

The concession applies only to the reserve power to cap all but the smallest councils in England and Wales which levy rates. The selective power which is to be used next year to fix the ceilings of up to 20 Labour-led councils is unaffected.

Dockyard jobs lost again

By David Goss

About 300 ship repair workers will lose their jobs for a second time under new development plans for Chatham dockyard, Kent.

English Industrial Estates, the Government's property development agency, wants to close Thames Ship Repair Services, a small private firm, at the end of May to make way for a prestigious £40m scheme combining light industry, offices, housing and a marina.

Mr Iain Cochran, chief executive of Thames Ship Repair Services, set up his operation two years ago using facilities formerly occupied by the Royal Navy. He said it was a "complete farce" that such a viable firm which was not subsidized by the taxpayer should be sent to the wall when Mrs Thatcher was trying to encourage such enterprises.

Many of the 300 workers to lose their jobs had worked in the naval dockyard before it became a victim

HALIFAX BUILDING SOCIETY

Notice to investors

The yearly rate of interest on investment shares and deposits will be reduced by 1%.

Some classes of investor will receive separate notices which will then replace this notice.

Notice to borrowers

The gross yearly rate of interest on mortgages will be reduced by 1%.

Letters advising the new monthly payments have been sent to Borrowers in appropriate cases.

The new rates will apply on and after 1st April 1984.

TRINITY ROAD, HALIFAX MARCH 1984

Sale room

Haydn manuscript fetches £151,200

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The manuscript of two movements of a Haydn Mass in D minor, unpublished and apparently unperformed, was sold at Christie's yesterday for £151,200 (estimate £20,000 to £25,000). The 16 pages written by Haydn in 1768 came to light in an attic in Northern Ireland last year, having been considered lost.

Christie's would not name the purchaser but he is believed to have bought the Mass as an investment. The seller is also unnamed in Christie's catalogue, but is Mr John O'Neill McGillock, the grandson of the second Lord O'Neill.

It was only after he had consigned the manuscript to Christie's that his sister, Mrs

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Planes unveiled

The first two production models of a new class of the Tornado aircraft, which will be at the heart of Britain's air defences until well into the next century, were unveiled yesterday by Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence.

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Serious health risks of divorce are ignored, psychiatrist claims

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Evidence that divorce is a major health hazard is now overwhelming, a conference on marriage and health at the Royal College of Physicians, London, was told yesterday. It carries increased risks of mental and physical illness, suicide, heart disease and other conditions, Dr Jack Dominian, a consultant psychiatrist who is director of the Marriage Research Centre at the Central Middlesex Hospital said.

But the problem "has been completely ignored by medicine, government and society". England and Wales, now had one of the highest divorce rates in Europe, with about 150,000 divorces a year, and about 500,000 men, women and children were affected annually as one in three marriages headed for dissolution.

"The size of divorce is immense and the impact on the divorced and their families is considerable", Dr Dominian said. "Accumulatively the divorce population is bigger than unemployment and is a major contribution to ill health."

In what he claimed was the first paper to draw together studies showing the health implications of marital break-

down and divorce, Dr Dominian said that work in Britain had shown that about 29 per cent of separated and divorced men and women suffered minor psychiatric illnesses and depression, compared with 18 to 24 per cent of men and women in the most vulnerable age groups.

Marital disharmony and breakdown was a key factor in between 60 and 83 per cent of suicide attempts. Divorced people were five times more likely to commit suicide than married people although suicide was 20 times more likely among couples who were separated.

Admission rates to mental hospitals were higher for the divorced and an extensive study in the United States had shown that divorced men, particularly, but also divorced women, showed a higher incidence of deaths from heart

disease, road accidents and cirrhosis of the liver from drinking too much. Divorced men also had death rates from lung cancer of more than twice those of married men.

"I am not saying that divorce causes death. But there is an association between the two and it is an important one to which we have paid too little attention," Dr Dominian said.

Divorced and separated women were also likely to be ill more often than married women, another United States study showed, and the divorced and separated were likely to have about 50 per cent more days off work than their married counterparts.

Dr Dominian suggested that a period of increasing tension, sometimes of two years or more, as a marriage broke down might play a key part in generating ill health.

Tens of thousands of men and women went to their doctors each year with tension, depression and a sense of helplessness. Unless the doctor was alert, a drug like Valium would be prescribed and the spouse would be no nearer to a solution to the problem.

MENTAL PATIENTS

Admissions per 100,000 population to mental hospitals in England and Wales in 1972, by sex and marital status

	Male	Female
Single	883	823
Married	257	433
Widowed	752	720
Divorced	1,559	1,596

GLC may end grants to top arts groups

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The GLC is considering scrapping all grants to four prestigious national arts bodies in London: the National Theatre, London Festival Ballet, English National Opera, and the London Orchestra.

The move, which is believed to have the support of the chairman of the council's arts and recreation committee, Mr Peter Pitt, will be put to a meeting of the committee next Wednesday.

Both English National Opera and the Festival Ballet receive £975,000 a year, and the National Theatre and the London Orchestra each receive £725,000 each. GLC officials are due to recommend increases to the four organizations in line with inflation next week, but Labour members on the committee are likely to propose the dropping of the grants.

They believe that the four will eventually receive grants from the Arts Council, the Government, or private sources after the abo-

lition of the GLC. They will argue that the GLC should immediately switch all its arts resources into areas whose existence will be threatened by the disappearance of the council.

The Office of Arts and Libraries has yet to reveal its long-awaited formula for channeling arts cash to bodies which now rely on the GLC and the threatened metropolitan authorities for their income. Labour members feel however, that, whatever the system, it is bound to work against community and ethnic arts groups and organizations which are not judged by central government to be of national status.

Among the groups which could benefit from switching of funds from the national companies are Sadler's Wells, the Almeida Theatre, and Riverside Studios.

The move was not directly linked to the Arts Council's shifting of up to £7m in funds from London to the regions which was being voted upon in private session by the council in London yesterday.

Children's businesses flourish

About 850 of the 5,000 secondary schools in England and Wales are operating small businesses whereby pupils learn to make money, take decisions, cooperate and solve problems, it is announced today.

This thrust to create budding entrepreneurs, triggered by a speech by Mr James Callaghan at Ruskin College, Oxford, in 1976, is also intended to increase young people's chances of finding work or developing the skills to survive unemployment.

In a paper released today, Dr Ian Jamieson, of the School Council Industry Project, tells of enterprises concerned with cleaning houses, cars and windows, gardening, repairs and magazine production.

The paper has been produced for a conference to be held in Cambridge from April 4 to 6 by the Careers Research and Advisory Centre and the National Institute for Careers Education and Counselling.

Father to sue over lion attack

The father of Mr Robert Holmes, an epileptic man whose hand was bitten off by a circus lion in Little Crosby, Merseyside, on Tuesday, is to take legal action for compensation.

Gordon Holmes, a plumber, said yesterday that his son had told him he was walking past the cage when the animal grabbed him.

Communion ban angers organist

Mr Harold Brown, aged 77, a relief church organist, has cancelled his covenant to Ringwood and Poulner parish churches, Hampshire, in protest at the communion ban imposed on Mr Rowan Brockhurst, a solicitor, and Mrs Fiona Oakes, the wife of Mr Jeremy Oakes, the curate of Poulner parish church.

Last issue of halfpennies

The halfpenny bows out quietly today at the Royal Mint. No more will be sent to banks before the smallest coin ceases to be legal tender at the end of the year after 13 years.

Gradually, the 2,500 million halfpennies in circulation will be returned to the Mint for scrap metal.

Noise action couple wait

An action begun by a West Berlin couple against the Ministry of Defence over the threat of nuisance from a British Army firing range being built near their homes should be struck out, a High Court judge said in London yesterday.

But, Sir Robert Megarry, the Vice-Chancellor said, it would be deplorable if the couple were not entitled to have their claim

AA centres to license cars

A trial scheme allowing motorists to release cars and motor cycles at Automobile Association centres in South-west England was announced by the Government yesterday.

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, said the scheme, which was for straightforward renewals, would start in mid-May and run until the end of March 1985. It will be available to all motorists, not just AA members.



Butterflies are free: Penny Booth watching a butterfly emerge from a chrysalis at the London Butterfly House. (Photograph: John Voos).

Painted Ladies in flight of fancy

An effusion of butterflies, such as London has not witnessed since industry sent them coughing beyond the Home Counties an age ago, will be wafted across the capital this mid-summer's day when thousands of Red Admirals, Painted Ladies, Speckled Woods, Wall Browns and Small Tortoiseshells are released on Hampstead Heath (Michael Horsnell writes).

The release on June 21 will mark the Greater London Council's cooperation in Project Papillon, the Guer-

sey Government's initiative to provide employment under the Relief Work Scheme for Islanders who have lost their jobs in horticulture.

Guernsey will use glasshouses abandoned during the decline in tomato growing to raise butterflies for export to Britain.

The idea was put to the island authorities by Mr David Lowe, a Guernsey businessman who started Europe's first butterfly farm there six years ago and has since opened five others centres

Under the Relief Work Scheme, about 20,000 British butterflies of the five main species will be produced this year.

Mr David Evans, president of the island's labour and welfare committee, which is responsible for the scheme, hopes the project will develop into a useful commercial venture.

Guernsey Butterfly Farm, with which Mr Lowe pioneered the display of depidoptera as a tourist attraction, has opened a 16,000 sq ft breeding unit to meet demand.

Salary squeeze on middle managers

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Salaries of executive, professional and administrative staff in the private sector are likely to rise between 4.2 per cent and 7.5 per cent during the coming year. But middle managers are losing in a new race on differentials.

That is the conclusion of the latest half-yearly report by Reward Regional Surveys, based on information from 600 companies around Britain.

In the year to last January the surveyed companies paid salary increases of 6.3 per cent, with total remuneration including bonuses up 6.5 per cent, which is in line with other estimates for the private sector.

Differentials between top-level management and other staff continue to widen as direct cash incentives have grown, linked to profit performance. Directors' salaries across the board have risen 11 per cent.

But this has not been matched at middle management level. Differentials between that grade and skilled workers and clerical and computer staff have started to shrink, the survey says.

This squeeze on middle managers could start a "brain drain" from bigger companies, the survey suggests. Technical, financial and commercial executives could decide to seek career rewards in the small companies now at the stage when they need to recruit non-proprietor managers, the survey argues.

Most large employers are likely to pay close to a 4 to 6 per cent private sector norm this year, the survey says.

Reward, Salary and Living Cost Report, March 1984 (Reward Regional Surveys, 1 Mill Street, Stone, Staffs ST15 8BA; £60 single issues, £95 one year subscription).

EXECUTIVE PAY INCREASES 1983-1984				
Company Turnover (£millions)	Senior Manager	Middle Manager	Junior Manager	
Up to 5	12.5%	10.6%	13.1%	
5 to 15	9.8%	13.2%	13.1%	
15 to 40	8.6%	13.2%	8.6%	
40 to 100	5.9%	7.7%	2.7%	
EXPECTED INCREASES 1984-1985				
Bottom Tenth	Bottom Quarter	Median	Top Quarter	Top Tenth
4.2%	5.3%	6.1%	7.2%	7.5%

Pub hours 'hypocrisy'

Public house licensing hours in England should be brought into line with Scotland, Mr Michael Montague, chairman of the English Tourist Board, said yesterday in an attack on the "hypocrisy" of the rules in England (Our Commercial Editor writes).

Longer opening hours in Scotland had not led to an increase of alcohol abuse or associated offences, Mr Montague said.

The solution to alcohol abuse

was education. Parents needed greater responsibility in introducing children to drink, which was one reason "family pubs" were a good idea.

Liberalization of licensing laws could create new jobs. The present archaic laws made public houses open even when there was no demand. Freer opening would prompt more public houses to diversify into food and entertainment, which would brighten up city centres and provide what tourists wanted.

'Drunk' police chief not breath tested

A senior policeman involved in a minor car accident was not breath tested, even though three other officers thought he was drunk, a court was told yesterday.

Supt Geoffrey Squire persuaded the officers to change two burst tyres for him then ignored their advice and insisted on driving himself home. Cardiff magistrates were told. He was fined £250 and banned from driving for a year after admitting driving while unfit through drink.

Squire, aged 44, of Grange

Crescent, Coychurch, Mid Glamorgan, is to leave the South Wales police force after 27 years, for health reasons.

Mr Robert Dyson, for the prosecution, said Squire, who was stationed in Barry, South Glamorgan, hit a concrete bollard in Barry, at about 2 am one day last October. A patrolling policeman heard the bang. The bollard was not damaged but both offside tyres of Squire's car were deflated. He drove another 500 yards before parking the car.

Two other officers went to

the scene and saw that Squire was unsteady on his feet and smelt strongly of alcohol.

Mr Dyson said: "The three officers considered he was drunk."

The officers considered he was incapable of changing the burst tyres of his car, and they were persuaded to change them.

Mr Dyson said all three officers tried to persuade Squire not to drive home.

A second summons of careless driving was withdrawn by the prosecution.

Three life sentences for sex attacker

A rapist who asked for medical help because he said he was afraid of becoming a killer, was given three life sentences at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

The Recorder of London, Sir James Miskin, QC, told Michael O'Brien that he was so great a continuing danger to women that he had to be locked away for a long time.

O'Brien, aged 34, a mechanic, of Church Street, Edenbridge, Kent, admitted two rapes and a serious sex assault. The offences took place in Tunbridge Wells, Kent, and South Godstone, Surrey.

His victims were a housewife, aged 32, a secretary aged 21 and a shop assistant aged 17. He had previously served a prison sentence for indecent assault.

After his pleas last month, O'Brien was remanded in custody for psychiatric reports, his counsel claimed he had a psychopathic disorder and feared he might kill someone. But medical reports produced in court yesterday concluded that he was not mentally ill.

Mr Richard Threlfall, counsel for the defence, said that O'Brien had sought help after his release from prison for indecent assault offences but had been told there was nothing wrong with him.

Mr Patrick Wheloh's for the prosecution, said that O'Brien's first victim was walking along a quiet road in South Godstone in September, 1979, when O'Brien leapt on her. He threatened to kill her, then tied and gagged her, before raping her twice.

Last May, he attacked a girl aged 17 in Tunbridge Wells. His third victim was attacked as she walked in South Godstone last November.

Girls 'strengthen' public schools

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Girls were admitted in substantial numbers to boys' public schools in the 1970s as a survival measure, and the result has been that the schools have been made stronger and more attractive, a conference was told yesterday.

The arrival of girls, who now comprise more than 10 per cent of the 200 leading public schools, represented "a startling revolution", Mr Peter Watkinson, headmaster of Rydal School in Colwyn Bay, Cwyd, told a London symposium on boarding education.

More than two-thirds of Britain's public schools now have girls at least in the sixth form, a quarter have girls and there is no evidence of the growth slowing down.

Mr Watkinson said: "I would judge our first motive to have been the survival and enlargement of the school or the college with less than total regard for the good of our neighbours or even of our newly recruited girls. It was a survival tactic."

"It was a move founded on convenience rather than conviction but shortly afterwards we began to defend it on ground of principle."

"It has enabled a large number of boys' schools to ride in style the rough waves of unprecedented inflation and political hostility and, as larger schools, to grow both stronger and more attractive."

Twenty years ago, for example, Dean Close School in Cheltenham had fewer than 300 boys in the senior school. Now it has a mixed community of 430.

Mr Alan Mould, headmaster of St John's College School, Cambridge, said afterwards that there was nothing particularly "natural" about coeducation. Children between the ages of seven and 15 preferred the company of their own sex.

British Academy urges recognition for arts

By Our Education Correspondent

Morale in university arts faculties is low and there is a widespread belief that the Department of Education and Science wants to weaken or abolish them, according to the British Academy. In a defence of arts and humanities in the universities, the academy also questions the government policy of pushing for more scientists and fewer arts students.

Professor Owen Chadwick, the academy's president and a former vice-chancellor of Cambridge University, says in a letter to the University Grants Committee that some sciences have as little to do with Britain's economic performance as prehistoric archaeology.

"This country needs people who are trained in the critical handling of ideas," he says in the letter to Sir Peter Swinerton.

ton-Dyer, chairman of the grants committee. "It needs politicians who cannot be hoodwinked by propaganda, and journalists who cannot be hoodwinked by politicians, and an educated people who cannot be hoodwinked by journalists. It needs a lot of informed and educated minds."

Professor Chadwick's letter is the academy's response to the committee's 28 questions on the future funding and direction of the universities, a questionnaire prompted by a letter from Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

"We do not doubt that some forms of scientific discipline are excellent for training such minds," Professor Chadwick says, "but another proven way of training them in this country has been by means of language and literature, and philosophy

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PARLIAMENT March 28 1984

Scott Lithgow will complete Britoil contract

COMMONS

Details of the transfer of Scott Lithgow shipyard from British Shipbuilders to Trafalgar House for a sum of £12m were outlined by Mr Norman Lamont, Minister of State for Industry, in answering in the Commons a private notice question put by Mrs Anna McCrury (Renfrew, West and Inverclyde, C).

Mr Lamont said this was a winning team and a new start for the yard. Trafalgar House would be paying £3m immediately and the remainder over three years at the normal commercial rate of interest. It would restructure the yard, complete the Britoil contract and seek new work.

The net cost of the deal, taking into account the purchase price and most of the deferred loans, would be £71m.

He stated: As the House knows, discussions have taken place with a number of companies interested in taking over Scott Lithgow. The Government have been concerned throughout to minimise any further cost to taxpayers who have already put a huge amount of cash into Scott Lithgow.

The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry (Mr Norman Tebbit) today gave his formal consent to the sale of Scott Lithgow to Trafalgar House. Under the new ownership Scott Lithgow will now complete the Britoil contract as well as the other work in the yard and seek new work.

The costs of this deal for BS are broadly the same as those which would have arisen if the Britoil contract had been lost and the yard run down and closed. However,

there are wider benefits arising from the maintenance of jobs at Scott Lithgow.

Instead of the severe blow to Greenock of closure of the yard, this deal holds out a prospect of a substantial operation continuing and, I hope, expanding. It also means the acquisition of a valuable facility by an experienced UK offshore operator, which has vast financial, managerial and technical resources and the retention of hard-won and valuable experience in the forefront of offshore technology.

I am sure that the House will join me in welcoming this transfer of Scott Lithgow to the private sector which offers a real hope for the people of Greenock and for the future of shipbuilding on the Lower Clyde.

Mrs McCrury: What are the terms of the deal and what are the consequences for the shipyard workers?

Mr Lamont: Trafalgar House will be restructuring the yard to allow it to meet existing liabilities, part of which will be repaid and the rest written off. Substantial liabilities would have had to be met whether the yard was sold, closed or retained by British Shipbuilders.

Trafalgar House will buy the shares for £12m. £3m to be paid immediately and the rest over three years at the commercial rate of interest. The net cost of the deal, after taking into account the purchase price and most of the deferred loans, will be £71m. This, broadly speaking, would have been the cost of closure of the yard.

He said the external financial limit of £158m was set before the

Lamont: Winning team

yard's problems when British Shipbuilders expected a number of new orders. This gave rise to costs of £88m and a further increase in financial requirements for British Shipbuilders of £22m. The result is a total of £268m which will be required this year.

Mr Norman Lamont (Greenock and Port Glasgow, Lab) said he was delighted that the threat of closure had been lifted.

Mr Michael Hirst (Strathkelvin and Bearsden, C) will be reminding the Scottish people, the Scottish media and the Opposition that it was Conservative Government which made the resources available to bring about the rescue of this enterprise.

Mr Gordon Wilson (Dundee East, SNP) in view of the valuable real estate which exists along the docks and Trafalgar House's interest in property development, how much weight the Government placed on the long-term future of the yard in seeking a buyer? Mr Lamont: We felt the taxpayer should not be expected to inject further sums of money on top of what has already been put into Scott Lithgow.

Millar: Expensive takeover

ment capability in this difficult sphere.

Mr John Corrie (Cunninghame North, C): Will all the land be required for the new company?

Mr Lamont: There could well be some surplus land. There are discussions with the Scottish Development Agency on how that land could be made available for other uses.

Mr Bruce Millar (Glasgow, Govan, Lab): This is an expensive takeover. The comparison is not with the cost of the original contract and then to have the yard sold to BS.

Mr Lamont: What has been expensive are the losses incurred by Scott Lithgow. It would have been the original contract and then to have the yard sold to BS. This is the best deal for the taxpayer and for the Clyde.

COAL DISPUTE

Police action in the coal dispute had no statutory backing and the police were using snatch squads to attack miners outside collieries, and other people with no connection with the coal industry, who were travelling to work, being hauled from their cars by the police, Mr Tony Benn (Chesterfield, Lab) said.

He was applying in the Commons for an Emergency debate on the conduct of the police in the present dispute. It was refused.

I have received reports from the Derbyshire area of the NUM (the said) that the police have set up road blocks, arrested 40 miners driving vehicles miles from their collieries, impounded vehicles and made passengers abandon them. (Conservative cheers.)

Miners had been prevented from peaceful picketing - (Conservative laughter) - at pits at which they themselves work like Shirebrook.

This is definite, urgent and important (he went on). The mining industry is central to the British economy and communities would be devastated by the proposed closures.

The dispute is already affecting the steel industry and other supplies. There is a ministerial responsibility. The closures cannot be resolved by the police, behind whom the Home Secretary is hiding.

The police were anticipating powers in the Police and Criminal Bill that has not been approved or passed by Parliament and is not the law of the land. The national executive of the Labour Party this (Wednesday) evening unanimously passed a resolution supporting the amendment, expressing concern at police operations as a serious breach of traditional practices.

It was being presented as a matter of law and order, but the House had not debated it, an omission which was worsening the atmosphere because it appeared that Parliament was not interested in the dispute or the maintenance of civil liberties.

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) said that he did not understand the importance of the dispute which was sadly taking place, but it was not appropriate for discussion as a matter of urgency under the standing orders.

AA to renew car licences

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, indicated in a Commons written reply that she had recently approved a proposal by the Automobile Association for a trial scheme which would allow motorists to carry out straightforward licence renewals for cars and motor cycles at AA centres in the South West of England. The objective was to test the demand for facilities in addition to those provided by the Post Office.

The scheme would, she stated, start in mid-May and would run until the end of March 1985.

Belgrano book criticized by admiral

The authors of the recently published book *The Sinking of the Belgrano* were criticized by Admiral Lord Trefgarne, Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, during question time in the House of Lords.

Lord Trefgarne said he was confident that the book was not a balanced account of the events. He said the book was written by two people who were not involved in the events and who had no access to the official records.

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Howe reaffirms conditions for raising contribution ceiling

EEC BUDGET

The Government is still prepared to consider an increase in the VAT ceiling to raise funds payable to the European Community, but any increase would be subject to approval by Parliament, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, made clear in the Commons when reporting on the outcome of the EEC foreign ministers meeting in Brussels earlier this week.

But, he said, the Government would only entertain such a proposal if there was effective control of spending and a fair sharing of the Community's budgetary burdens.

Sir Geoffrey Howe said: Most of yesterday's meeting was devoted to the issue of budget burdens. The basis for our discussion at this meeting was that there should be only one more year of ad hoc refunds covering 1984, to be followed by the introduction of a lasting system for a fair sharing of the budget burden.

It did not, however, prove possible to reach agreement on the figure that would be the basis for such a system. This figure is of greater significance than is implied by the crude size of the gap between the figure of 1,000 mecu (£590m) which is being proposed to us and the figure of 1,250 mecu (£737m) which the Prime Minister indicated at the European Council that we would be ready to accept.

Since this is the starting point for a negotiable system, it is important to get it right at the outset.

Further work will now be set in hand. Foreign Ministers will take up the issue again at our meeting on April 9.

The regulations covering our outstanding refunds for 1983 remain blocked. I have made clear to our partners that this is unjustified and misconceived.

As the House knows, the Commission have made a request for an advance payment of the own resources due in April. The principal justification for this advance would have been to provide for the payment of United Kingdom and German refunds by the end of March. Since these refunds remain blocked, the case for the advance can no longer be sustained. We shall not therefore ask the House to approve the supplementary estimate for the advance payment which the Commission requested for March 30.

I do not need to remind the House that one of the main issues in the negotiations has been the proposal by other member states and the Commission to change the basic decision under which the Community is financed by increasing the VAT ceiling.

This proposal requires the unanimous consent of member states and national Parliaments. The Government has indicated its willingness to entertain that proposal, but only if there is effective control of Community spending and a fair sharing of the budgetary burden. Both these conditions remain crucial.

It is bound to be difficult to reach agreement on fundamental reforms of the kind now under discussion. The decisions will determine the future of the Community for a considerable number of years ahead. It is for this reason that the Government believe that it is in our interest to take no action that might damage the prospects of decisive progress.

We shall continue to work constructively for a settlement of these negotiations.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, said he recognized that Part II of the Bill was a considerable step and would represent a significant change in the relationship between central and local government.

He had studied with some care the details of a later amendment restricting its application, excluding authorities which had not exceeded expenditure guidance or grant related expenditure.

He could not accept it as drafted but would table an amendment in the House of Lords to meet the substance of the case (Conservative cheers).

Lords amendment to meet Tory critics

RATE CAPPING

Any concession by the Government would not detract from his opposition in principle to the general powers in Part II of the Rates Bill, Mr Charles Morrison (Devizes, C) said in the Commons during debate on an amendment to these provisions when the report stage was resumed.

He said he was opposed to these powers about this part of the Bill provided for the most major transfer of power from local to central government ever to come before the Commons.

In the end (he added) whatever the yields of horror from Whitehall about local government costs, these costs would be higher if administered from Whitehall.

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these negotiations on a basis acceptable to the Government and to the House.

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an increase in own resources, even on the basis of 1.5 per cent, would involve a substantial transfer of resources from this country. That is precisely the reason we are seeking an adjustment of the budgetary burdens to ensure we are protected from the full impact of that increase. That is why our position remains exactly the same.

Regarding the withdrawal of the supplementary estimates that related to an advance of payments by one month from April 20 and there is now no need for that to take place.

Mr Julian Amery (Brighton, Pavilion, C): He has achieved much more than many of us expected. While recognising that brinkmanship was the essence of negotiations, there is a difference between brinkmanship with adversaries and brinkmanship with friends.

Sir Geoffrey Howe said the important feature of the negotiations was that they were with other EEC states with whom Britain had been in partnership since joining and with whom Britain would remain in partnership.

In these negotiations differences appear. Sovereignty is a sharp but we are determined to work for decisive progress towards a negotiated agreement in the context of the Stuttgart agenda.

But I should be flexible throughout the negotiations because that was right and robust because that is right.

Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, OUP): When Britain joined the EEC the people were told that parliamentary sovereignty remained intact and could be reasserted at any time. Will Sir Geoffrey Howe guarantee that it will be used as and when necessary to secure the rights of this country?

Sir Geoffrey Howe said parliamentary sovereignty was exercised in accordance with the treaties endorsed by the House. Any change involving an increase in own resources would require approval of the House.

Mr David Crouch (Canterbury, C) said there were Tory and other backbenchers who wholeheartedly supported the idea of making a success of Europe and Britain's participation in the EEC.

It was not just a question of making a success of the cost of membership.

Sir Geoffrey Howe said most MPs and most of the people wished membership to continue successfully.

It is critical in this respect the said that we should at this critical stage in the Community achieve the right outcome to these negotiations.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark (Birmingham, Selby, C) said many felt that Brussels had spawned an organization which had refused to make a long term Common Market the farmer and often from the poorer countries to richer ones.

The British Government (he said) deserves all the support it can get in stopping this insanity so that we have a long term Common Market which will not just be a bloodsucker on the backs of the British people.

Sir Geoffrey Howe said he was not sure he could share precisely Mr Beaumont-Dark's view of the Community. Every developed country has the former problem of reducing the interests of the agricultural community and those of the rest of the Community. The changes now in prospect were likely to involve difficulties and sacrifice.

Mr Roy Jenkins (Glasgow, Hillhead, SDP): If the Foreign Secretary continues to take the Prime Minister's instructions, to use the words yesterday, not to negotiate, he is unlikely to achieve a negotiable settlement.

Britain was coming out of the recession more quickly and in better condition than most. The Earl of Gowrie, Minister of State, Privy Council Office, said during a debate on training for jobs, initiated by Lady Carnegie of Lour (C) in the House of Lords.

The Government, the minister pointed out, was spending more on training for jobs than it was in 1979 - nearly £1,000m this year - but it was not only spending more but ensuring the money was spent more effectively on skills training was an investment which if that investment could not pay for itself - either because the initial costs were too high or because the training available did not meet employers' needs - the investment would be a waste of money.

scale and training would decline.

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INDUSTRY

The United Kingdom content in Nissan cars would be far higher than in some of the other assemblers in Britain, Mr Norman Lamont, minister of State for Industry, said during Commons questions.

Replying to a Labour MP who referred to Nissan's decision to indicate that they might take more overseas components, which were cheaper, he said Austin Rover were eager to buy British wherever possible but at the end of the day had to be competitive. They were fighting for survival.

Mr Roger King (Birmingham, Northfield, C) had asked whether representations had been received from the British motor component industry about the levels of UK content in British-produced cars.

Mr Lamont: The department remains in regular touch with representatives of the component industry. The level of component business provided by car manufacturers in the UK is one of a number of questions addressed in these exchanges from time to time.

Mr King: In Japan there are 18

major UK component suppliers selling on quality, price and delivery. Would he ask some of the so-called UK car manufacturers in

content. We expect the motor companies established in this country to maintain a broad base in their activities: that is, to build vehicles and buy components in the UK at levels at least broadly equivalent to their UK sales. That is something we continue to discuss with them.

Mr Geoffrey Robinson (Coventry North-West, Lab): Successive governments have put over £1,000m into British Leyland to see them receive widespread sourcing of overseas components.

Dunlop, in my constituency, the last remaining UK wheel manufacturers, have been screwed to the ground mercilessly by government and are unable to buy British investment allowance to proceed with a modernization scheme which has been pending for two or three years.

Mr Lamont: I have had discussions with them about this point. Austin Rover are eager to buy British wherever possible and economic and to treat British suppliers on at least equal terms with those from overseas.

Mr James Pawsley (Rugby and Kenilworth, C): While appreciating

the staff of that successful company to participate in the success? Mr Tebbit: I go further. All sensible people will welcome the return of Jaguar to the private sector. Discussions within British Leyland and in my department are going on about the necessary arrangements for Jaguar to be returned to the private sector which I hope will be achieved before too long.

I hope that there will be appropriate arrangements for re-organizing the private sector to make it true public ownership.

Better times for footwear industry

The British footwear industry was looking up with increased exports and more jobs, Mr Norman Lamont, Minister of State for Industry, said during questions in the Commons.

Asked by Mr Peter Pike (Burnley, Lab) about the Government's plans and strategy for the industry, Mr Lamont said he recognized the difficulties the footwear industry had experienced in recent years and the need to invest in advanced technological equipment. New measures for assistance were announced earlier this month.

He added that exports rose by 7 per cent last year and 11 per cent to EEC countries. Another 1,900 jobs had been created and more overtime was available for workers.

Mr Michael Grylls (North-West Surrey, C): Most sensible people want to see Jaguar returned to the private sector as soon as possible. When that happens, will he ensure that adequate provision is made for

the staff of that successful company to participate in the success? Mr Tebbit: I go further. All sensible people will welcome the return of Jaguar to the private sector. Discussions within British Leyland and in my department are going on about the necessary arrangements for Jaguar to be returned to the private sector which I hope will be achieved before too long.

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Zimbabwe's tough cash controls hit whites and strain links with Britain

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The tough measures announced this week to stop the drain of foreign currency by Zimbabwe are likely to put new strains on Britain's sensitive relations with its former southern African colony which will complete its fourth year of independence next month.

The relationship went through a very bad period last year because of the upsurge in Britain over the trial of senior white Air Force officers accused of being accomplices in the sabotage of virtually the entire Zimbabwean Air Force at the Thornhill base.

Zimbabwe was understandably highly suspicious of the role played by the accused, but the Government did its utmost to ensure that the trial was a fair one and that the accused were given a fair trial.

Relations were also soured by the very adverse coverage in the British press, nearly all of it justified, of the brutality of the Army's campaign against "dissidents" in the Nochele-speaking western Matabeleland region.

A painstaking process of fence-mending began with a conciliatory meeting between Mr Robert Mugabe and Mrs Thatcher at the Commonwealth prime ministers' conference in Delhi last November.

Last weekend's visit to

Little shock in Whitehall

British investment in Zimbabwe is estimated at about £800m by the Department of Trade and Industry although most of this is thought to predate the 1965 unilateral declaration of independence (Peter Wilson-Smith writes). In recent years inward investment from this country is thought to have been very small.

A number of large British companies and banks have interests there. These include Barclays Bank which has a wholly-owned subsidiary with 52 branches and other banks including Grindlays Bank and Standard Chartered.

Turner & Newall owns manufacturing companies and asbestos mines and Lorohe has mining interests.

Whitehall officials expressed little surprise. Zimbabwe's latest measures to ease its foreign payments problems were not totally unexpected they said.

Zimbabwe by the Prince of Wales, in the course of a four-nation tour of eastern and southern Africa, went extremely well.

Mr Witness Mangwede, the

Foreign Minister, spoke of the "special relationship" with London at a public reception, and Mr Mugabe is understood to have spoken in even more glowing terms of the British connection at a private dinner.

But the relationship is still a fragile one, and the drastic measures announced on Tuesday by Mr Bernard Chidzero, the Finance Minister, are the sort of thing to bring back Tory MPs to their feet demanding a retaliatory cut in British aid.

Politically, by far the most sensitive move by the Government is to freeze, for at least a year, the remittance of all income abroad other than pensions, alimony payments and approved expatriate wages.

This will hit thousands of former white Rhodesians now living in Britain and South Africa, who have been counting on rents from houses they vacated in Zimbabwe, as well as interest from investments there, to boost their income.

In future, emigrants will also not be able to take more than £21,000 (about £640 per family in foreign currency out of the country, compared with £210,000 hitherto. All their other assets will have to be liquidated and invested in specially created government bonds yielding no more than 4 per cent interest.

Bishops of Poland back defiant students

From Our Correspondent Warsaw

Poland's episcopate opened a two-day conference here yesterday at which a key item is believed to be the continuing dispute with the communist regime over the removal of crosses from state schools.

The bishops' final communiqué is expected to give strong backing to students at the Stanislaw Staszic agricultural training school in the eastern town of Mielno who have been protesting against the removal of crosses from their classrooms since the beginning of this month.

The bishops will be briefed on the latest developments by Bishop Jan Mazur of Siedlce, in whose diocese are the towns of Mielno and Garwolin, the front-line in the so-called "war of the crosses".

Bishop Mazur stunned some 2,500 youths and older parishioners attending Mass at Garwolin's Church of the Transfiguration on Tuesday, when he declared he would begin a bread-and-water fast because his letters and personal talks with Government officials had failed to resolve the dispute.

A Church source said the bishop's decision resulted from his disappointment over talks last week with Mr Adam Lopatka, the Minister for Religious Affairs. After the meeting Bishop Mazur had announced that parents would



Battle of the crosses: Bishop Mazur announcing his fast. Right, defiant Mielno pupils hold up a church Solidarity banner while listening to their bishop



no longer have to sign declarations acknowledging the school authorities' right to remove the crosses as a precondition for reopening the school. But the authorities did not respect this seeming concession.

The Church source said Bishop Mazur decided to start his unprecedented fast "because he tried going the legal, honest way with Lopatka but he was cheated".

Classes resumed at the Mielno school on Tuesday but the overwhelming majority of students and their parents were refusing to sign any declaration of compliance. According to students, only about a few

dozen of the 725 teenagers attending the school and about 150 parents had signed the controversial pledge to comply with all the school regulations and obey the teaching staff.

Those who had not signed were allowed to attend classes unofficially, but were barred from taking meals or sleeping in the school dormitory, which was guarded by police.

The students said that the school authorities had set yesterday afternoon as the deadline for signing the pledges. However, the school's director Mr Ryszard Domanski, who is also the local Communist Party's head for ideology and propaganda, re-

fused to comment apart from admitting that there were fewer classes than usual.

A final-year student, who would have graduated in May said that 16 of the 17 students in his class were ready to leave the school rather than sign the pledge. Some students could be seen walking away from the school complex with their belongings packed in knapsacks and duffle bags.

"We've been taught a very good political lesson," the student said. "We've experienced ourselves how this system works when they called the riot police to handle our protest three weeks ago."

Turkish diplomats shot in Tehran

Bahrain (Reuters) - Two Turkish diplomats were shot and wounded yesterday in Tehran in separate attacks. An Armenian underground group claimed responsibility.

A Turkish embassy official said the deputy military attaché, Sergeant-Major Ismail Tamukcu, was seriously injured by a bullet in the head. The first secretary, Mr Hassan Oktem, was hit in the shoulder and chin, but not seriously hurt.

The Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia claimed responsibility in a telephone call to a foreign news agency in Tehran.

The embassy official, contacted by telephone, said two other attacks on Turkish diplomats had failed. Four people were arrested yesterday morning outside the home of an administrative attaché.

A man was killed on Tuesday night, when a bomb he was apparently trying to plant in the car of the Turkish deputy commercial attaché, exploded.

In Ankara, the Turkish Foreign Ministry said the deputy military attaché was in a critical condition. The Iranian National News Agency, reporting the shootings, said the diplomats had been taken to hospital in northern Tehran.

Armenian guerrilla attacks have claimed the lives of more than 30 Turks, mostly diplomats, in the past decade. Ankara has ruled out conceding any of the rebel demands.

Moscow cautions Luanda against Pretoria tricks

From Richard Owen, Moscow

As Russia and Angola held consultations in Moscow yesterday, the Soviet press warned Luanda and Maputo that South Africa's recent peace moves were only a trick and would be swiftly reversed once President Reagan was reelected in November.

The Literary Gazette said yesterday that Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, had "suddenly promised peace to Africa after a series of atrociously ruthless attacks" on Angola and Mozambique. Why this sudden change from anger to mercy? the paper asked, answering that the key lay in Washington.

Dr Chester Crocker, the Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, had toured Africa before Pretoria's turn to défilante with the frontline states. "Reagan urgently needs to be able to tell American voters: 'I have given peace to southern Africa, I have succeeded where others failed before me,'" the Literary Gazette said.

Kirkpatrick says plane was Libyan

From Zoriana Pysarivsky, New York

The United States has told the Security Council that it has photographic proof that a Libyan aircraft invaded Sudanese airspace earlier this month to the town of Omdurman, killing five people.

Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, the American representative, said that Libya would have to accept responsibility for the attack because a Tu22 bomber appeared on the photographs, an aircraft known to be used in the region solely by Libya.

She was joined by Mr Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak, the Sudanese Foreign Minister in expressing outrage over the incident, which was described as one in a chain of Libyan aggression against Sudan.

Referring to Libya's denials that it had carried out the attack, Mrs Kirkpatrick said: "The Libyans have demonstrated in the last decade that they are masters of violence. Today they demonstrated that they are promising apprentices in deception."

The Security Council yesterday continued its meetings on Sudan's complaint against Libya, and on Libyan charges that Sudan had fabricated the evidence to justify the dispatch of American Awacs surveillance aircraft.



General Scowcroft: A letter from Mr Reagan

Tass mocks US general

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Moscow yesterday denied that the retired American general, Mr Brent Scowcroft, had been stopped from handing over a letter from President Reagan to Mr Konstantin Chernenko, the Soviet leader, during a visit to Russia last week.

Tass said the US press had claimed that General Scowcroft, former adviser to President Reagan on strategic nuclear forces, had been entrusted with a letter from Mr Reagan but the Russians put obstacles in his way.

Mr Scowcroft visited Russia with a group of military men and scholars who reported that their Moscow talks had been "sharply negative".

Old allies desert Pinochet in eighth day of protest

Santiago (AFP) - Four people were shot dead and more than 100 arrested as the eighth national protest day against Chile's military regime paralysed much of the country.

A sign of the increasing isolation of President Augusto Pinochet was that many businesses closed their doors and many lorry and bus drivers went on strike. It was the first time this had happened since the strikes and sabotage that preceded the Army's overthrow of President Salvador Allende in 1973.

Police clashed with demonstrators behind street barricades as in the seven protest days last year. People in poor districts banged saucepans after night fell to show they want General Pinochet to resign.

A boy aged 13 and a worker were killed in the capital, a

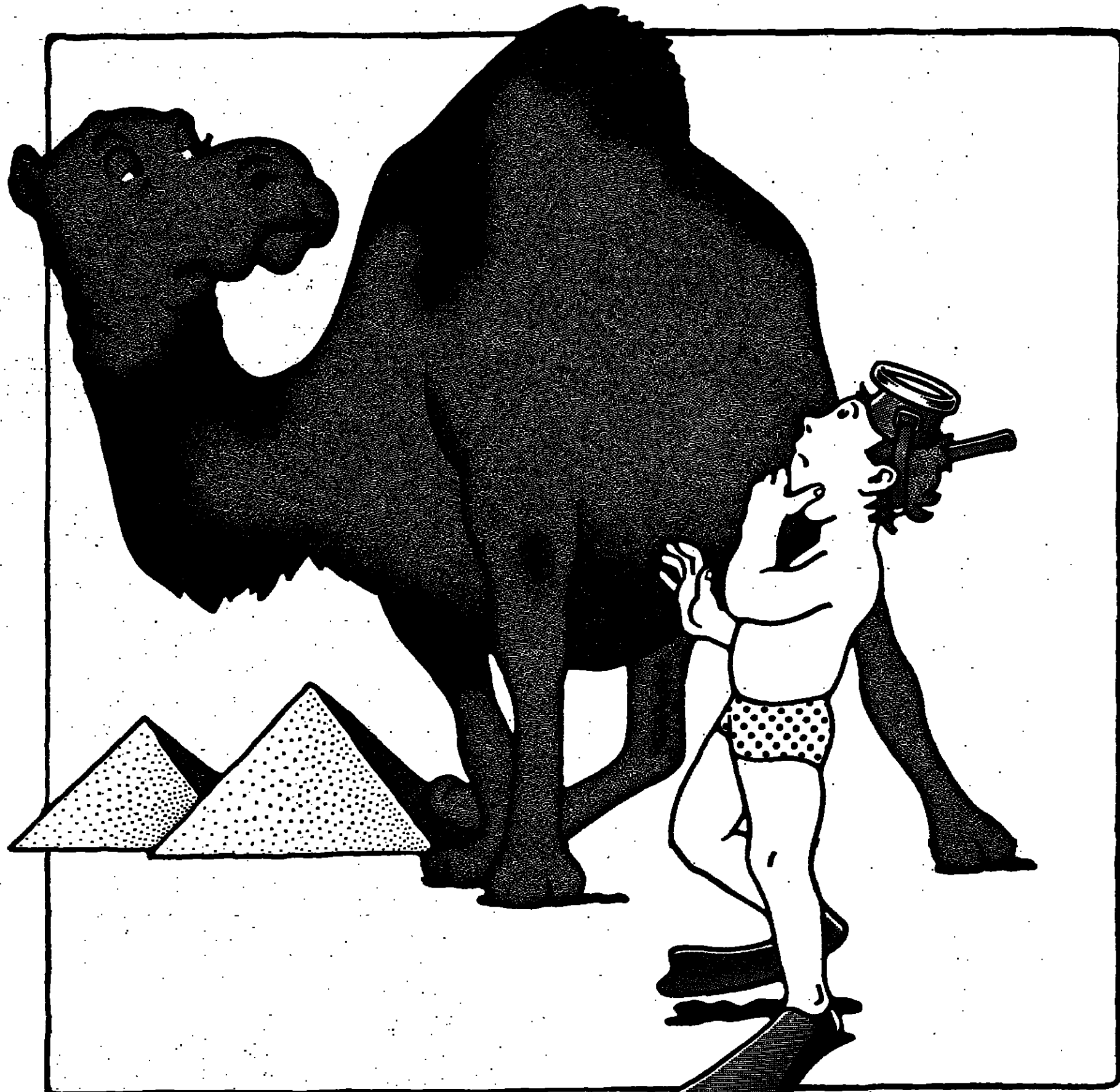
university student died at Concepción, 315 miles to the south, and another student at Vina del Mar, 85 miles west of here.

Almost 100 people have been killed during the eight protest days that began last May. Most of them were inhabitants of slum districts and suburban shanty towns round the main cities of Chile.

After a curfew went into effect at 8.30 pm, General Pinochet inspected the suburbs from a helicopter.

The protest day was organized by the National Workers' Command, a committee of trade union leaders, and was backed by parties ranging from conservatives to communists. The President is committed to restoring democracy in 1989, but political leaders are demanding that he resign quickly.

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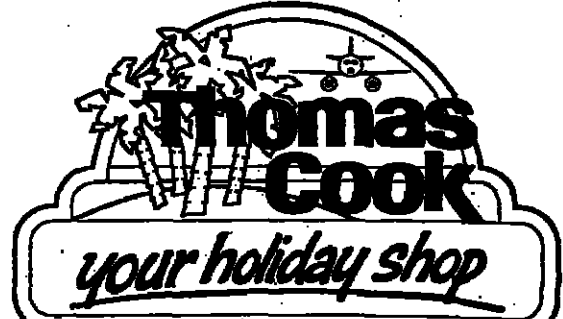
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Duarte claims Salvador victory

From John Carlin
San Salvador

Confusion continues in El Salvador's presidential elections. Barely 3 per cent of the results have been officially released, yet Senator Napoleón Duarte has already held a victory celebration in the Christian Democratic Party headquarters.

The official returns for the small province of San Vicente were finally made public 40 hours after polling ended, only for the figures to be revised later on Tuesday. Both events were relayed with great solemnity live on nationwide television.

At first it seemed the extreme right-wing Major Roberto D'Aubuisson had edged out Senator Duarte in San Vicente, but three hours later, and without any explanation, a television announcer informed the country that Senator Duarte had won by 62 votes.

If the result reflects any sort of a nationwide trend, the chances of Major D'Aubuisson - the man the US would least like to see win - becoming the next President of El Salvador appear greatly improved.

By yesterday morning no other official results had been received. The extreme sluggishness is due, first, to the non-receipt of thousands of electoral returns in the national counting centre in San Salvador.

But what promises to delay the final overall results even further - American officials are talking of a possible 10-day wait - is that the Central Electoral Council running the elections has deemed that ballots should be recounted by hand in San Salvador and not with the aid of a \$1.6m (£1m) computer donated by the US Government.

Nevertheless, based on his own party's private count, Senator Duarte is fully confident he has won 45 per cent of the votes, against Major D'Aubuisson's 29.4 per cent. Equally, he believes he will claim 61 per cent of the votes in a run-off election with Major D'Aubuisson expected within 40 days.

● **Offensive launched:** The Salvadorean leftists have announced the start of a new guerrilla offensive aimed at creating a dilemma for the Salvadorean Army between now and the second round of the presidential election (Martha Honey writes from San José, Costa Rica).

According to Signor Jorge Villacorte, a spokesman for the FMLN/FDR guerrilla front, the Salvadorean Army is exhausted after policing the election and cannot both pursue the guerrillas and prepare for the presidential run-off race.

Senator Villacorte alleged that the first round of the US financed and directed elections was "chaotic" because the Reagan Administration "was more interested in staging a media event than in accurately testing popular opinion."

He said that the US wanted only to show long lines of Salvadoreans waiting to vote and therefore purposely set up too few voting places.

From Ian Murray
Strasbourg

The undignified, esoteric arguments which have brought the ailing EEC to the brink of bankruptcy have been prolonged by their complexity.

It is becoming increasingly clear that the failure at the summit was in no small part due to the fact that the leaders did not all understand their brief, and chose failure rather than the risk of accepting something with uncertain implications.

The confusion continued at this week's Agriculture and Foreign Councils, and the whole issue was further complicated by the lack of a common language. At one stage on Tuesday work had to stop because there were no interpreters left who were not too tired to work.

Despite this it is obvious that all sides now make significant concessions, which must make a final agreement that much easier - despite the ritual of hurling insults at Britain at the end of this week's Foreign Council.

It is also becoming clearer that Ireland is determined to set a very high price indeed on giving its approval to any settlement.

Germany's obvious irritation at the impasse is also dangerous, since it has denied its government's resolve not to pay all it would normally owe under any rebate deal for Britain.

How Thatcher made summit concessions to the point of breakdown

EEC preferred failure to uncertainty

For all that the European Commission is now adding up all the concessions that have been made so that it can start the argument off again at the next Foreign Council in Luxembourg on April 9-10.

First of all came a major British concession. This was to abandon its case that the size of its net contribution to the Community was the difference between the total of what it paid and of what it received.

With great reluctance Mrs Thatcher abandoned this simplistic view at the summit. She agreed that part of the total payment - customs duties and agricultural levies - were

collected directly on behalf of the Community and should not therefore be taken into account.

She accepted that in future the basis for calculating the gap should be only the value-added tax payments which Britain contributes to that part of the budget derived from VAT.

Since Britain's share of this is about one and a half per cent less than its share of the total budget, the gap is reduced.

In 1983 it meant that Britain's net contribution was no longer shown as 1,917m European Currency Units but as 1,622m ECU.

Battle was then joined on how much of this 1,622m ECU

Britain should receive back as a rebate. Mrs Thatcher had been asking originally for 1,500m back on the 1,917m figure. But when the 1,622m figure was agreed it was only logical to go down.

Mrs Thatcher tried 1,322m ECU. This was actually two-thirds of the 1,917m ECU figure and had she been able to win agreement on that she would have been able to claim that she had won a permanent deal for Britain worth as much as the temporary deals so far.

But that figure was still far too high for the others. Mrs Thatcher went down to 1,250m and Sir Geoffrey Howe travelled to Brussels this week probably prepared to go down even further.

But for that to happen there had to be movement away from the 1,000m figure around which the other nine were entrenched. There was none and the meeting collapsed.

It did not collapse because the gap was too large to bridge, however, it collapsed because the implications of the future of agreement on any figure would become progressively larger as the size of the Community budget inexorably increased.

Despite all the hard talk at this week's meeting about withdrawing proposals already made, it now looks as though a grudging consensus has formed around the latest system.

Under this system the whole calculation depends on the

HOW BRITAIN MOVED

Million ECUs
Pre-Summit Post-Summit

British Net Contribution 1,917 1,622

British Rebate Demand 1,500 1,250

Rebate offer 1,000 1,000

Britain was seeking a 78 per cent rebate before the summit. Its current demand would bring it a 77 per cent rebate on the lower net contribution figure or 65 per cent on the higher contribution figure.

The present offer would give it 61.7 per cent on the lower net contribution figure or 52 per cent on the higher figure.

The current conversion rate for the European Currency unit is 166p per ECU.

relative wealth of each country. It is based on a Community of 12 members. Because by the time it comes into operation Spain and Portugal are meant to be inside the Community.

At the moment, given a Community of 12 average of 100, Britain is slightly above average at 103.

The other factor to be used is the relative wealth of each country in terms of how large a share of the national economy is enjoyed by each citizen.

Given these two figures - about which there can be little argument - the formula then requires to know the level at which rebates have to be paid in

relation to them, about which all the argument is now going on.

Once this is negotiated it is to be converted into a percentage of the gross national product.

The eventual figure is thus the starting reference point for future rebates. These would increase proportionately as the size of the budget increased and would decrease or increase proportionately as Britain became relatively more or less wealthy.

A final factor has been added to the formula to act as a brake on spending and to make sure that Britain - or any other country - is not given a rebate - contributes something to the extra cost involved. This would mean that the actual rebate would be reduced by a small percentage which has yet to be negotiated.

The intention is that rebates would be calculated at the end of each year and would take the

The Irish milk problem is relatively far simpler. Ireland wants to be exempt from the new provisional agreement on cutting back EEC dairy production. It has argued a strong case that its milk production levels are still artificially low and that it must be allowed to catch up.

Although the Irish claim is essentially one to be allowed to go on producing as much as it can, in best Community traditions the claim has had to be turned into a formula. This was done by Ireland demanding to be allowed to increase production by 8 per cent a year on its 1983 figures for at least the next five years.

At the summit, Dr Garret FitzGerald, the Irish Prime Minister, was offered and nearly accepted a deal giving an extra 3 per cent on 1983 figures for one year, with the guarantee of a review, the present claim is for an extra 5 per cent over the next three years with a guarantee of a review.

Any increase at all is unwanted by the Community and every million tonnes produced - and the Irish claim would add some three million to the "milk lake" - costs £150m to dispose of.

Ireland is thus seeking significantly more from the Community than is needed to bridge the gap between Britain and the others on the budget question.

Leading article and Letters, page 13

Milk problem is far simpler

form of a reduced payment demand in the following year. This would mean there would be no need for the Community to hand back money through the budget, a process which gives the European Parliament the opportunity of blocking payment.

Connecticut puts new life into Hart's flagging campaign

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Senator Gary Hart's landslide victory in the Connecticut primary boosted his chances in next week's crucial contest in New York. However, a new opinion poll suggests that Mr Walter Mondale is still expected to be an easy winner in New York, where 285 convention delegates are at stake.

The Washington Post ABC News poll, taken over the past three days, showed Mr Mondale leading Senator Hart by 43 per cent to 33 per cent among New York voters who said they would certainly go to the polls next week.

Mr Hart's win in Connecticut gave him a sweep of primaries and caucuses in all six New England states. It has his first primary victory in two weeks and provided a badly needed filip to his campaign, which had become demoralized by a series of primary and caucus losses as well as a string of campaign blunders by the candidate himself.

With all of Connecticut's precincts reporting, Mr Hart had won 52 per cent of the vote compared with only 29 per cent for the former Vice-President.

The Rev Jesse Jackson won almost 12 per cent - more than anticipated - mainly among black workers in cities such as Hartford, Bridgeport and New Haven.

Hart, who had campaigned actively in the state, swamped Mr Mondale across the board, in cities, suburbs and towns and among every age group. He even outpolled his rival five to three among union members, despite Mr Mondale's endorsement by organized labour.

Mr Mondale, recognizing Mr Hart's strength in Connecticut, had not spent much time or money there, preferring to concentrate his efforts on New York, where he hopes to deliver a body blow to his young upstart rival next Tuesday.

The former Vice-President conceded that Connecticut was "a very good win for Gary Hart," but noted that it was a state where he did not spend much time. "That was - my

decision under the circumstances." Despite his relative lack of activity, Mr Mondale had hoped that his support among the state's Democratic hierarchy, as well as union backing, would have enabled him to make a reasonable showing. As it turned out, Senator Hart's margin of victory was much bigger than anticipated.

Mr Hart, breaking open a celebratory bottle of champagne after the scale of his victory had become clear, rejected the suggestion that Mr Mondale had not campaigned seriously there. "Connecticut," he declared, "had responded to the message voters in New York and the rest of the country will want to hear."

Mr Hart's win gave him 33 of the state's 52 delegates to the party convention. Mr Mondale won 18 and Mr Jackson one. Senator Hart has won primaries and caucuses in 13 states and Puerto Rico. However, Mr Mondale retains a commanding lead in the number of delegates pledged to support his nomination at the convention in San Francisco.

● **MOSCOW:** The leading Moscow newspaper *Sovetskaya Rossiya* voiced cautious support yesterday for Senator Hart, saying his views on nuclear weapons and US-Soviet relations deserved "interest and sympathy" (Reuters reports).

Democrats milk Meese scandal

From Christopher Thomas
Washington

An independent legal investigator will soon begin to unravel the complex financial and ethical web spun by Mr Edwin Meese, the retired criminal lawyer who counts President Reagan as a personal friend as well as his boss.

So close is the friendship that Mr Meese was known spitefully in Washington as "the deputy President". His title is presidential counselor, a position of intimacy with a large office down the corridor from Mr Reagan and ready access to the Oval Office.

The extent of scandal that trails him is inevitably seeping into the White House. Democrats are determined that the Meese affair will bear heavily on presidential politics in election year.

Mr Reagan is not touched personally by the gossip, but his political opponents are busy tainting the whole Reagan White House machine with something they call "the sleaze factor". Morality will be an election issue.

Mr Meese's nomination by President Reagan as Attorney-General has been thwarted by a well-timed leak that, according to rumour, came from an enemy in the White House. It concerned his failure to disclose a \$15,000 interest-free loan from a friend, Mr Edwin Thomas, who became Mr Meese's deputy at the White House.

But for the leak, Mr Meese might have been comfortably ensconced in the Attorney-General's office by now.

Mr Meese asked for an independent investigation into his affairs in an attempt to clear the way for Senate approval of his appointment, which has been put on hold. The procedure is made possible by a post-Watergate law providing for "independent counsel" to investigate allegations against senior Administration officials.

Kohl issues challenge on political union

From Michael Binyon
Bonn

Chancellor Kohl told the West German Parliament yesterday of his "great regret" that the Brussels summit had failed because of the attitude of Britain, and he called on all Community members to guard against national and political short-sightedness.

Without criticizing Mrs Thatcher directly, the Chancellor suggested it was time for all those who believed in the European ideal to stand up and be counted. He asked which states were prepared, like West Germany, to regard membership of the Community as irreversible, even in difficult times.

"The question is, who is ready to follow us along the road to political union with the declared goal of a United States of Europe?" he said.

West Germany hoped that all Community partners would answer both questions with a clear "Yes". It was high time, that the desire expressed in the preamble to the European Treaties for closer cooperation between the nations of Europe was transformed into concrete deeds.

Herr Kohl said his country would hold fast to its European policies. The difficulties that had to be overcome were the result of many years of development in the wrong direction, and would take hard work and sacrifice to overcome. But, he said, the Irish milk production dispute could at least be solved.

Britain's demand for a budget rebate, however, was unacceptable to its partners, even taking into account the special British circumstances. He conceded, however, that the nine had agreed on the principle of a rebate for Britain.

Without replying directly to British press criticism of his own performance at the summit, Herr Kohl gave details of what Britain had been offered and what it had received in previous years.

He added: "At the end of the conference I tried to save the negotiations with a suggestion of my own." And he told Parliament of the German proposals for a five-year rebate



Questionmaster Kohl: The demands for answers from Bonn's Community partners.

agricultural output had to be ended.

He said people had to be given hope that European unity was a realistic prospect, and something had to be done to overcome the frustration and weariness with Europe, otherwise the European parliamentary elections in June would be a fiasco.

West German commentators yesterday said the failure of the foreign ministers' meeting was not Bonn's fault, and London and Dublin had to listen to reason.

Moscow actors make a scene

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The controversy over the future of the avant-garde Taganka theatre came into the open yesterday when Mr Anatoly Efros, who succeeded the disgraced Yuri Lyubimov last week as director, indirectly accused the actors of self-absorption and lack of discipline.

Mr Efros, formerly director of the Malaya Bronnaya theatre, ran into stormy criticism from the Taganka cast when he met them last week. They accused him of betraying Mr Lyubimov, who had been a colleague and friend of Mr Efros in the Moscow theatre world, and had helped him when Mr Efros and the Malaya Bronnaya fell foul of the cultural authorities.

Mr Lyubimov, Russia's best known theatre director, was sacked and expelled from the Communist Party after a

prolonged stay in Britain and Italy, during which he gave interviews to the press and to Russian-language radio stations attacking "ignorant and incompetent" officials who had interfered with his work at the Taganka.

Under the innocuous heading "Theatrical Notes" Mr Efros said yesterday in the *Literary Gazette* that too many people in the theatre judged their work by "in house" criteria and theatre gossip in the corridors. The theatre's first duty was to the public. "We often fail to realize how much we lose by this lack of internal discipline, these professional short-comings," he wrote. "We don't see able to look at what we do from the outside."

Mr Efros, described for the first time in print as the Taganka director, was reviewed

ing his 30 years of experience in the Moscow theatre, but his remarks were taken by the Taganka actors and staff as aimed clearly at them.

The article made no mention of Mr Lyubimov, who is presumed to have become a non-person in the official cultural world.

Ironically, Mr Efros is also regarded as an avant-garde director, though his style is quieter than Mr Lyubimov's, with plays used to convey intense inner emotion rather than extravagant spectacle. In the *Literary Gazette* Mr Efros said he favoured "free breathing, free spirit" in the theatre and lively innovation. "We do not have to stick to what was done yesterday," he wrote, in an apparent appeal to the Taganka cast. "Perhaps we have to find new and unexpected forms."

Democrats milk Meese scandal

From Christopher Thomas
Washington

An independent legal investigator will soon begin to unravel the complex financial and ethical web spun by Mr Edwin Meese, the retired criminal lawyer who counts President Reagan as a personal friend as well as his boss.

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Malaysia cows press with harsher controls

From David Watts, Kuala Lumpur

George Orwell could scarcely have imagined a more awesome set of press controls than those passed by the Malaysian Parliament last night.

The Printing Presses and Publications Act 1984 is so all-encompassing that even photocopying machines would require licensing if the letter of the law is applied. Foreign publications circulating in Malaysia must deposit an unspecified sum which would be forfeited if they offend the Government.

With television and the leading newspapers already closely guided by the Government, the authorities' control over information will be more comprehensive than at the passage of the last such act one month after the communist insurgency began in 1948.

The right to license printing presses and newspapers and the circulation of foreign publications rests with the government as before but much greater powers are now given to Datuk Misa Htun, the Minister of Home Affairs.

For the first time he may fine or jail journalists and suspend or close newspapers for a great variety of offences, which

Egyptian troops alerted along Libyan border

From Our Correspondent, Cairo

As a sign that tension is growing between Egypt and Libya, Egyptian Army officials put their troops in the Western Desert along the border on full alert.

The move came in reply mainly to a declaration by Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, on March 8, when he said Libya had decided to test legally the charter of the United Arab Republic, which has linked Egypt, Syria and Libya since 1972, and declare the border between Egypt and Libya open from March 28.

Colonel Gaddafi called for Libyans to march across the border, presenting it as a direct challenge to the Egyptian Government.

Since then, however, President Mubarak of Egypt has declared that he has received overtures from the Libyan leader calling for cooperation and open borders between the two countries.

One of those overtures came just two days before the bombing of Omdurman in the Sudan, which caused President Mubarak to discount Colonel Gaddafi's messages as mere polemic.

"This is the fourth or fifth

Israelis storm Shia village

Beirut (AP) - Israeli troops stormed the southern Lebanese village of Jibchit with tanks yesterday and fired into a crowd of stone-throwing demonstrators, killing at least six, witnesses claimed.

Jibchit, 17 miles south-east of Israel's defence line at the Awali River, has been under Israeli siege since Tuesday night, witnesses from neighbouring villages said.

Correspondents based in southern Lebanon said a column of Israeli tanks and armoured vehicles stormed the village at 5 am yesterday and broke into its main mosque.

Villagers praying at the Shia Muslim mosque shouted *Allah akbar* (God is great) through loudspeakers. Soon after, many Jibchit residents gathered in the square outside the mosque and began throwing stones at the Israelis.

The soldiers opened fire with machine guns and automatic rifles, wounding scores of people, according to the witnesses. Villagers, who fled from Jibchit, said the bodies of six people were lying in the street in front of the mosque. Among the six was a teenage girl who died to death after Israeli soldiers refused to allow ambulances and Red Cross workers into the village, the correspondents said.

The village was still under Israeli siege yesterday afternoon, and residents of villages nearby said tanks were blocking all exit routes. They said occasional firing could be heard from the village.

It was the first serious confrontation between Israeli troops and the Shia populations of southern Lebanon for more than a month. Correspondents said Israeli Army helicopters were seen yesterday morning. The religious leader of Jibchit, Shaikh Raghad Harb, aged 31, was murdered on February 16 as he returned from dinner with friends in the village. Villagers blamed an Israeli-backed Shia militia for the killing.

Military sources in Tel Aviv said yesterday's confrontation was between Israeli-backed Christian militiamen and Jibchit inhabitants. But residents in Harout, a neighbouring village, said the tanks which stormed Jibchit flew Israeli flags and the soldiers wore Israeli uniforms.

● **More fighting:** The worst clashes since the Lausanne talks erupted between east and west Beirut yesterday, filling the capital with the sounds of explosions and wailing sirens (Our Correspondent writes).

Hospitals in Muslim west Beirut reported nine people killed and more than 70 wounded. Christian radio stations said there were also many casualties in the eastern sector. The shelling started as sources said President Gemayel was about to announce the formation of a "higher security-political committee" which was agreed in Lausanne. It is intended as a step toward a permanent truce. But a government spokesman said the afternoon shelling may delay its formation.

The security committee will supervise a 10-day stabilization period. Police will take over posts along the "green line" between east and west Beirut previously held by French troops. About 40 French officers will be sent here to help secure the truce. The 10-day period is also intended to include the reopening of Beirut's port and airport.

Loud blasts could be heard in the afternoon in west Beirut.

● **July poll:** Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, and Mr Shimon Peres, the leader of the Labour opposition, agreed yesterday to hold a general election on Monday, July 23 (Moshe Brilliant writes from Tel Aviv).

Howe will urge Russians back to arms talks

By Henry Stanhope
Diplomatic Correspondent

Sir Geoffrey Howe the Foreign Secretary, will appeal to the Soviet Union to resume talks on nuclear weapons when he meets Mr Georgy Kornienko, the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, in Whitehall today.

But he is unlikely to get a satisfactory response from the Russian, who is expected to repeat his Government's refusal to return to the intermediate nuclear forces (INF) talks in Geneva unless the United States removes all cruise and Pershing 2 missiles from Europe.

The Soviet Union has not ruled out the possibility of reconvening the talks in a different form, however, such as merging them with the strategic arms reductions talks (START). Today's discussions could well concentrate on the options.

Anglo-Soviet trade is likely to be the area to benefit most directly from Mr Kornienko's two-day visit.



Model kiss: Yves St Laurent receiving congratulations from a model yesterday after his autumn-winter ready-to-wear fashion show in Paris.

Israelis storm Shia village

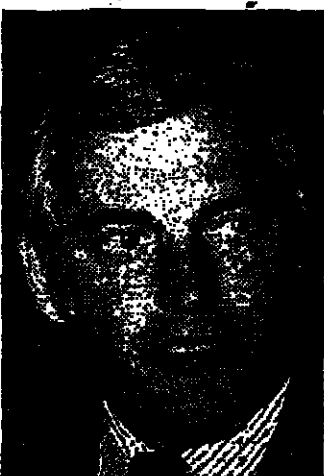
Six-horse race to succeed Trudeau

Favourite stumbles at the start

From John Best, Ottawa



Mr Chrétien: Passionate and patriotic



Mr Turner: Forced on to the defensive

One month after Mr Pierre Trudeau decided to step down as leader of the Liberal Party and Prime Minister of Canada six candidates are in the race to take over his job. There could be more.

The contest, which will be decided at a leadership convention here in June, is already shaping up as a more wide open battle than most people had expected.

The conventional wisdom was that Mr John Turner, aged 54, a Toronto lawyer and former Finance Minister, could have the job for the asking. But a lacklustre performance at a meeting of the party's Ontario wing in Toronto last weekend, where all six declared candidates spoke and answered questions from rank-and-file Liberals, made it clear that he has a fight on his hands.

The convention was a triumph for Mr Jean Chrétien, aged 50, Minister of Energy. He had already been considered by many to be the principal, if somewhat distant, challenger to Mr Turner. But his presentation in Toronto, where he charmed delegates with his folksy, down-to-earth approach and an impassioned speech that was heavy with old-fashioned patri-

otism, bolstered the credibility of the challenge of this small-town lawyer from Quebec.

Mr Turner, by contrast, was cautious and uninspiring. Ever since March 16, the day he announced his candidacy, he has been on the defensive about a statement he made then that a solution to the thorny question of French-language rights in Manitoba must be provincial,

and that it should come through political and not judicial processes.

He has since found it necessary to put out a four-page "clarification" designed to align himself with government policy, which would use both the Federal Government and the courts to help guarantee the rights of Franco-Manitobans. The feeling is that Mr Turner

has stumbled badly out of the starting gate. Mr Chrétien is not the only beneficiary. Liberals are now looking more closely at the whole list of candidates, and one who is coming in for increased attention is Mr John Roberts, Minister of Employment and Immigration.

A former member of Canada's foreign service, Mr Roberts, aged 50, has been a Cabinet minister for seven years. He has never attracted much national attention but now his obvious abilities and low-key articulateness have propelled him into third place by most observers' reckoning. He could conceivably emerge as the compromise winner should Mr Turner and Mr Chrétien knock each other out in the battle for convention delegates' support.

Mr Roberts is a Trudeau Liberal in the sense of being middle of the road or slightly left of centre, while Mr Chrétien is right of centre and Mr Turner well to the right.

The other three declared candidates are Mr Donald Jonson, Minister of Economic Development; Mr MacGuigan, Minister of Justice, and Mr John Munroe, Minister of Northern Affairs.

India fears Chinese nuclear aid for Zia

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

India believes that China has exploded a nuclear device on behalf of Pakistan - the rival with whom it has gone to war three times in the past 40 years.

A senior official in the External Affairs Ministry disclosed that the Indian belief is that the device was exploded 10 months ago in the LDP NOR testing ground in Xinjiang province in north-west China.

The official explained that at the time there was an international meeting of nuclear scientists in Peking and at the last minute Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, the Pakistani Foreign Minister, arrived unexpectedly for a two-day stay.

At the same time, there was a nuclear explosion at the secret testing ground.

The Indian theory ties in with evidence presented to the United States Congress recently that China has transferred to Pakistan "sensitive nuclear weapons design information."

Dr Paul Leventhal, of the Nuclear Control Institute of Washington DC, testifying before a congressional committee on foreign relations, called on Congress to insist that the whole matter of China's transfer of nuclear technology to Pakistan be brought into the open and "be certified to have ended" before the US concludes any agreement on nuclear cooperation with Peking.

According to a Washington journal, *National Defence*, the consequences of a possible Sino-Pakistan nuclear agreement had their roots in a meeting in 1976, when the Bhutto Government persuaded China to supply nuclear technology and apparatus. China is reported to have suspended cooperation after Mr Bhutto was overthrown the next year.

But after the Communist coup in Afghanistan in April, 1978, China became more friendly with the regime of General Zia-ul-Haq, the chief martial law administrator.

Pakistan, it should be made clear, has always denied that it had any interest in manufacturing a nuclear bomb. Last year, the Indian media were thrown into a building after a Bangalore seismic laboratory reported what could have been an underground nuclear explosion in a remote part of Baluchistan. The reports were never confirmed and were eventually discounted.



Tribute to the past: President Herzog at the unveiling of the GLC plaque to Sir Moses Montefiore

Israel president hails Anglo-Jewish hero

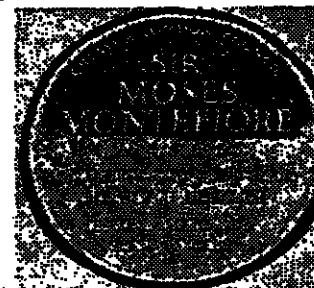
By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

President Chaim Herzog of Israel unveiled one of the Greater London Council's blue plaques yesterday in memory of Sir Moses Montefiore, one of the most revered Jewish figures in British history.

Sir Moses (1784-1885) was so successful in the City that he retired at the age of 40 and devoted the rest of his life to fighting for the rights of Jews throughout the world, travelling seven times to the Holy Land, twice to Russia and to Morocco, Turkey and the Balkans. About 200 institutions in the United States are named after him.

Officials from the Foreign Office and overseas embassies, as well as leaders from the Jewish community in London, attended the ceremony at 99 Park Lane, where Sir Moses lived from 1825 until his death.

Strict security is being maintained for the five-day visit to Britain by President Herzog.



Disc of honour: The new blue plaque at 99 Park Lane

visit to Britain by President Herzog.

Today Mr Herzog, aged 65, will meet Conservative and Labour MPs and the Speaker of the House of Commons.

He is also meeting Mrs Thatcher while in London and will have lunch with the Queen at Windsor Castle on Monday.

16 die as police end Peru siege

Lima (Reuters). - At least 16 people were killed and 30 wounded during a jail mutiny in Lima which ended early yesterday after a 14-hour siege.

The dead included a prison guard police officer. Two other officers were wounded, a police spokesman said. Before the siege ended, three prisoners committed suicide with dynamite and revolver shots, the spokesman told reporters at the gates of the El Sexto Jail.

The mutiny started on Tuesday when eight inmates took 15 hostages, threatening to kill them if they were not given a getaway car. Among the hostages were lawyers, guards and other inmates, including Señor Antonio Diaz Martinez, considered the ideologue of the Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) Maoist guerrilla group.

Zanzibar poll

Dar es Salaam (Reuters). - The presidential elections in the semi autonomous Tanzanian island of Zanzibar will be held on April 19. Ali Hassan Mwinyi, the sole candidate, needs more than 50 per cent of the vote to be elected.

Hijack bluff

Miami (Reuters). - A hijacker who diverted a US airliner to Havana on Tuesday night and threatened to blow up the aircraft was not armed, FBI officials said. No weapons or explosives were found after the hijacker was taken away by Cuban soldiers.

Fatal old bombs

Delhi (AP). - At least 12 people were reported to have been killed and 25 injured when outdated training bombs exploded as they were being loaded on to a lorry at the Air Force base at Jamnagar 270 miles north-west of Bombay.

Dawn hangings

Damascus (Reuters). - Five men including a policeman were hanged in a public square in Damascus at dawn yesterday for murder and robbery. The policeman had also been found guilty of helping prisoners to escape.

Papua quake

Port Moresby (Reuters). - A strong earthquake registering 6.5 on the Richter scale shook Papua New Guinea's volcanic island of Karkar. There were no immediate reports of casualties.

Deaths of 57 Somalis admitted

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

A minister of state in the President's office, Mr Justus Ole Tipis, has told the Kenyan Parliament here that 57 members of the Somali Tribe died last month when the Army rounded up thousands of Somalis in the Wajir area in the north-east after intertribal clashes.

He denied earlier statements by a local MP that at least 300 Somalis had died.

Mr Tipis was making the first government statement on the incidents, which have caused serious concern here. He said government forces moved last month to quell tribal feuds and recover illegal arms. The Degodia clan was the target of the operation because it had attacked a rival clan and ignored calls to surrender arms.

Mr Tipis said a committee had been appointed to look into the situation and investigate the basic cause of friction.

N Yemen taste in daggers threatens the rhino

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

The biggest threat to the survival of the African rhinoceros is the demand for daggers with rhino-horn handles in North Yemen.

North Yemen banned the import of rhino horns officially in August, 1982. But wildlife conservationists say the country is still the world's biggest market for rhino horns and so long as the men of North Yemen are prepared to pay the equivalent of several hundred pounds sterling for an ornate dagger with rhino horn handle, the poachers will find a way to meet the market.

The high demand for rhino horn there forced up the wholesale price of African rhino horn last year by 40 per cent, to nearly £500 a kilogram. Dr Esmond Bradley Martin, a leading conservationist, said:

Dr Martin is vice-chairman of the African elephant and rhino specialist group which is linked to the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN).

The sharp increase in price and the inability of the North Yemen authorities to halt the trade is encouraging poachers to kill more rhinos. Dr Martin said. The danger was especially acute in Zambia, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

According to the group, almost all the rhino horn entering North Yemen is flown in from Khartoum.

Sudan ratified the international convention prohibiting all trade in rhino products in 1982. But this has not stopped the traffic to North Yemen.

Although the quantities of rhino horn imported into North Yemen have declined (owing to the dwindling numbers of rhinos), the proportion of the world's supply of rhino horns flowing into that country is estimated to have risen 40 per cent to more than 50 per cent in the past few years.

The number of black rhinos in Africa fell from about 65,000 in 1970 to about 13,300 last year.

Basques go on strike over killings

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

Pro-terrorist demonstrators blocked main roads, smashed some shop windows and brought normal business activity to a standstill in several northern Spanish towns yesterday after the Basque home rule government criticized police for an ambush in which they killed four suspected terrorists.

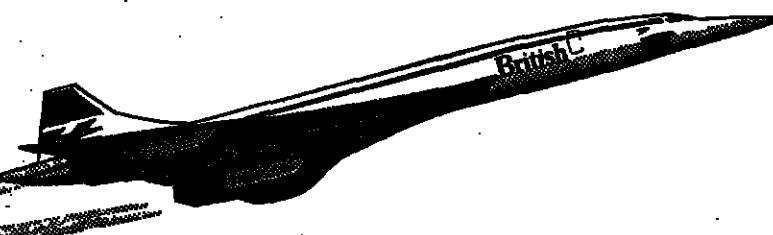
Referring to the police action which last Thursday resulted in the death of four suspects near San Sebastian, a spokesman for the government of the autonomous basque region said in Vitoria: "The procedure of spraying them with bullets, was out of proportion with the objectives of stopping the squad safely."

The spokesman claimed that witnesses accused the police of even firing on one of the victims while he tried to swim to shore after the police bullet hit the launch in which he was travelling.

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THE ARTS



Jean-Claude Carrière (left) has turned his proven scriptwriting talents to adapting Proust, and *Swann in Love* opens in London next week: interview by John Preston

Alchemist of turning word into image

Jean-Claude Carrière's qualifications to adapt Proust for the cinema extend right down to his address. He lives in a large house off the Rue Victor Massé in Pigalle, which started life as a brothel-cum-gambling den called Le Cercle Massé. Proust almost certainly went there. The site of a more famous haunt of his, Le Chat Noir, is just around the corner. Massé himself, a composer of hugely ornate and romantic operas, was held in utter contempt by Proust's hero, Charles Swann, largely because his beloved Odette once chose to go to a Massé opera rather than spend the evening with him.

Along with Peter Brook and Marie-Hélène Estienne, Carrière wrote the script for the film version of *Swann in Love*, directed by Volker Schlöndorff, which opens in London next week. Carrière boasts a formidable list of scriptwriting credits, having worked with directors such as Jacques Tati, Pierre Etaix, Milos Forman and Andrzej Wajda. But he is probably best known for his lengthy collaboration with Luis Buñuel, a 20-year partnership which resulted in Buñuel's last six films as well as his recently published autobiography, *My Last Breath*, which Carrière co-wrote and illustrated.

Carrière has also spent a good deal of time working with Peter Brook at the Bouffes du Nord theatre. And it was while he was there adapting Brook's much-acclaimed production of *Carmen* that Proust first came into view. Ever since Nicole Stéphane bought the rights to the whole of *À la Recherche de Temps Perdu* back in 1965, various attempts have been made to film all or part of it — most notably by Visconti and Losey (working from a script by Harold Pinter). But all had ultimately floundered. It was Stéphane who approached Brook with the suggestion that another attempt be mounted and Brook who immediately sounded out Carrière. He was intrigued but a little apprehensive. "In the 15 or

so years I have known Peter", he says, "we had never discussed Proust. So the first thing I asked him was, how well do you know Proust? Have you read him? Do you like him? Peter replied: 'But what are you talking about — Proust is a British writer'."

They quickly decided to narrow down their focus to *Swann in Love*, the central section of the first volume, *Swann's Way*. "It seemed impossible or at least undesirable to give a physical appearance to Proust himself, to the narrator. We chose *Swann in Love* because it is almost separate unto itself and in many ways it's a prefiguration of what happens to the narrator. Then we thought of concentrating the action into 24 hours, the last attempt by Swann to know and possess Odette."

This was the third classic text in a row that Carrière had tackled: before *Carmen* he had adapted *The Cherry Orchard*, also for Brook. All three date from the same period and Carrière's approach was similar in each case. "We sought to strike a balance between a 'historical' approach and a 'symbolist' one," Carrière did not want to overemphasize the historical reality behind each work for fear that it would lead to a certain coldness. But neither did he wish to jettison it altogether. "I didn't want to make pretty period pieces. One had to let each work breathe with its own natural rhythm. On the Proust we wanted to concentrate on the characters, not to make what I call a film of antiquities."

Carrière sits in his stockinged feet at a cluttered work table. He is expansive when roused but wary of being pinned down about his own work. He quotes Pirandello with approval: "Don't ask me. I'm only the author." Midway through our conversation there is a loud explosion nearby. Carrière shrugs. "It's nothing. Pigalle, you know. A little *colleur locale*."

Quite apart from the technical



Carrière: "A good shot of an actor looking at someone or something is able to say as many things as a whole page of literature, but in a different way." — Swann (Jeremy Irons, left) and the Baron de Charlus (Alain Delon) reflect in middle age at the end of *Swann in Love*

problems involved in adapting Proust, the ethics of the whole endeavour were called into question by the vociferous band of diehard Proustians, horrified by the thought of anyone monkeying about with the sacred text. In the event, the film was well received in France, by critics and Proustians alike. Anyway, Carrière was quite underlined by any ethical qualms. "Proust himself said that when he was trying to recreate the feelings he had had in the past, or imagine the feelings of one of his characters, he had to start with an image. So straightaway we were very close to cinema. And we have known for a long time that a good shot of an actor looking at someone or something is able to say as many things as a whole page of literature, but in a different way. Making an adaptation is like the work of an alchemist. It is going from one material, which is the paper, to another, which is the film. There is a basic change of substance, a chemical process."

Of the 28 writers Buñuel worked with, Carrière, he wrote in *My Last Breath*, "was undoubtedly the closest. They first worked together in 1963 in *Diary of a Chambermaid* (in which

Carrière also played the priest). And it was Carrière who persuaded Buñuel to write his autobiography, an extremely delicate diplomatic manoeuvre. "He was living alone in Mexico and getting bored. So I flew out there on a pretext, having already written a rough first chapter in which I tried to get under his skin and use his sort of vocabulary and syntax. He hated the idea at first, saying it was exhibitionistic. Then I showed him what I had written. He was very shocked and said that he felt as if he had written it himself. I wanted to prove that it was possible to write a new sort of book that was more like a Spanish novel from the seventeenth century rather than a traditional autobiography: one could stop the chronology from time to time and talk about what was really important in his life."

Carrière is currently working with Pierre Etaix (Tati's former assistant director), on what he hopes will be "a real comic film with dignity and quality". But the going is tough. "You can't believe how difficult it is to tell a story through visual gags without being artificial or boring. I assure you it is a lot harder than adapting Proust."

Theatre

Monument to steam power

Starlight Express Apollo Victoria

Andrew Lloyd Webber now ranks not only as the transatlantic king of popular music theatre but also as its reigning Medicus and both roles are combined in this translation of the Revd W. Audrey's modest little steam engine stories into the most spectacular commercial production (not excluding *Cats*) since Sir Oswald Stoll ran his own private train into the Coliseum.

"Commercial" is not quite the word. It is no secret that John Napier has transformed the interior of the Apollo Victoria into the ultimate rich boy's locomotive layout. Model railway loops are suspended aloft with intricately synchronized rolling stock, a human-scale track encircles the auditorium on three levels, with monitor screens projecting the traffic behind your back and, where you would expect to see a stage, there is a vast engaged girder bridge set against the starry sky, tipping and dipping to different level-crossing gates, and revolving to descend like a space capsule.

What is even more startling is that, to create this amazing environment, a good half of the theatre's seating capacity has been ripped out, thus achieving precisely what the production team had in mind at the expense of the rich box-office pickings they would have collected anyway. I await with interest to see whether the New York producers will wear this when *Starlight Express* reaches Broadway. As it stands, the show is a millionaire's folly which happens to be open to the public.

While dwelling on its paradoxes, you could also describe the show as a monument to the power of steam which relies to an inordinate degree on the power of electricity. I suspect that spectators least likely to feel at home with it are old-style steam buffs.

The story evolved by the team consists essentially of a knockout race between steam, diesel and electric locos; and the heart of the show comes in the three heats during which the roller-skated company zip vertiginously round the loops and slopes of the course to a pounding *perpetuum mobile* more exciting than Lloyd Webber's Paganini Variations.

To justify the race, the show (as in *Cats*) invents a framing loco-community. Gone are the Revd Audrey's mildly paternal controllers and their bovine



Stephanie Lawrence: her "Only You" seems a hit in the making

fleet of anthropomorphic puffing billies. Instead, orders are barked by an unseen tyrant, and the locos snap to it like a chain gang.

Both characterization and Richard Stilgoe's lyrics have been assembled by witty points of comparison between human types and their mechanical equivalents. The diesel fleet, for instance, are heavy rockers, dressed in oily black and led by an Elvis clone called Greaser (Jeff Shankley). Electricity brings an unearthly David Bowie extra-terrestrial (Jeffrey Daniel) down in the cage for a show-stopper called "A.C.D.C.". The freight wagons are heavy labouring types. But, when we get to steam, the production casts any lingering caution aside and presents them as black slaves who finally defy the plantation owner.

There are various fairytales hovering in the background, from Cinderella to the Ugly Duckling; but, even less than in *Cats*, none comes into clear focus. And, by the time Rusty, the much-abused hero, sends up a prayer to his tribal god (the starlight express) and receives an inspirational visitation that enables him to win the last race, any link between the world of the show and that of the Romney Hythe and Dymchurch

Railway has long been left behind.

Not that this is likely to bother anyone who goes along for the sake of music, lyrics and spectacle. Gimcrack, the story may be but not the score, even though Lloyd Webber has followed his librettist and given each character group its own self-contained idiom: heavy rock, rhythm and blues, or blue grass, country music. What reconciles these and other styles is the central sound of the steam engine itself, the sound that first carried the Blacks away from the plantations and reverberates through all forms of urban jazz.

From the first number of Greaseball and his gang, a growling boogie bass line interspersed with discordant whistles that take you back to Meade Lux Lewis, there is no resisting the show's rhythmic grip. Trevor Nunn has the wit to let the aural excitement pile up before releasing his company from an enclosed space into the joyous labyrinth of the open track. Once Arlene Phillips's choreography takes over, it obliterates any sense of incompatibility between the different groups. The track is a wonderful visual metaphor for the combined freedom and rigid discipline of all performance; and the company — equipped in metallic padded suits, and driving-cabin helmets — jointly turn the routines into gladiatorial contests, including brilliant dance as well as feats attainable on wheels.

Mr Stilgoe has also cracked the secret of the sex-life of the engine shed by casting locos as male and carriages as female. And carriages spare no effort to avoid being left to rot in the sidings as so many missing links.

Mr Napier's costumes throughout substitute for the actual grime of railways a hygienic space-invasion equivalent, and, where the ladies are concerned, disco glamour takes over completely. This does not deny their dramatic situation and laughs; and if there is one number that doubles the house up it is Frances Ruffelle's torch song, "Uncoupled" — a word she has to spell out, as too humiliating to pronounce.

Musically, the company are well up to Lloyd Webber's demands. I imagine that Stephanie Lawrence's "Only You" will emerge as the hit equivalent of "Memory". But the sounds I shall remember most are the falsetto climaxes with which Ray Shell celebrates Rusty's fate. He really lets off steam.

Irving Wardle

Television

Highly suspicious

Open Space (BBC 2) was devoted to "the most serious problem facing sport today" — all the stimulants, narcotics and anaerobic steroids which increase muscles to the size of bathospheres and put hairs on a young woman's chest. In a week in which it was revealed that cigarette advertising on sporting occasions sends young children to the nearest tobacconist, it was hard to take altogether seriously the much-vaunted purity of sport. But clearly there is a problem — many, if not most, of the major competitors use drugs and, according to one expert, 70 per cent of American performers are getting higher than the average high jumper.

Although the procedures for detection were revealed in mind-numbing detail, certain sportsmen are becoming increasingly adept at evading the doctors — some athletes, it seems, will even inject alien urine into their bladders. Others carry bags of that substance under their arms — a feat which might have unfortunate consequences for wrestlers or swimmers. The central point was incontestable, however: all forms of sport depend for their efficacy on the observance of rules. Once those rules are broken, sport turns into something quite different — mere spectacle or big business. But the fact that many sports have become precisely that suggests that drug abuse is only part of a larger problem.

Q.E.D. (BBC 1) tested the world of "testers", those assiduous researchers into the exploding potential of custard powder or the inflammable properties of Coca-Cola. There is an area of Derbyshire where nail-varnish remover is turned into a fireball, and where a single imported firework is shown to create a miniature holocaust. Elsewhere, flies are sacrificed in almost biblical proportions to test a new kind of killer spray, and a use has been found for Sweden at last — that country manufactures "international standard dust" which can be employed in experiments with vacuum cleaners. This programme was part of the "just fancy that" school of scientific documentary, but was really none the worse for its breezy tone. It ought to be pointed out, however, that there are no "testers" for television programmes, which can be just as lethal, and not nearly so useful, as custard powder.

Peter Ackroyd

Opera

Lady Macbeth of Mstensk Logan Hall

Roaring applause from what must have been one of the Camden Festival's largest audiences greeted the last searing chord of the Chelsea Opera Group's concert performance on Tuesday night of Shostakovich's *Lady Macbeth of Mstensk*.

We had certainly waited long enough to hear the original, unrevised work, which was last presented, also in concert performance, at the Queen's Hall in 1936, the year in which Stalin banned it. Bitten was in that Queen's Hall audience, and it is almost impossible to hear the work now without being caught in the echoes that bounce back and forth between it and Peter Grimes.

The verbal and physical violence done to Katerina Ismailova as a woman is a microcosm of the violence of humanity as a whole; as in the case of *Grimes*, it must, desperately, engender violence (Lady Macbeth must be drained of the milk of humankindness); and the criminal/victim is driven and drawn to a current too strong for survival.

Here it continues in the mindless trudge of convicts; and that image, with its strong vibrations of Dostoevsky and Janáček, alerts us to the distinct provenance of the work's language, if not its concerns. Indeed, the raw-edged realism, the calculated barbarism and

crude irony which Prava's editorial rejected is both its weakness and its strength.

The first act, with its drawn-out and explicit violence, is never, perhaps, entirely successful musically: the crude humour of the libretto is attenuated in some of Shostakovich's weaker writing; the balance between farce and fear is insecure. The orchestra includes, though, the grasp and tighten the music's drama: the Act II Passacaglia is a lacerating pivot as characters become more tersely delineated.

As coup follows coup, brass and pizzicato strings beat out a terrifying march — Birnam Wood to Dunsinane and the *Grimes* witchhunt put together — and then comes Katerina's last isolated aria. It was one of the finest points of Phyllis Cannan's riveting performance: extraordinarily intense in dramatic focus, broad and close in emotional span within each strongly-integrated register of her voice. Donald Stephenson and John Gibbs had studied carefully their portrayals of Sergei and Boris; Martyn Hill was suitably arrogant as Zinovy.

Minor parts too many to mention were all splendidly cast: the Chelsea Opera Orchestra under Howard Williams, with brass band at the back of the stalls, played powerfully and perceptively. With such championship eye of lurking producers, it cannot be long before the score Rostropovich brought out of Russia in the late 1970s will find its real home.

Hilary Finch

Dance

Voices and Light Footsteps Sadler's Wells

The voices mentioned in the title of Richard Alston's new work for Ballet Rambert, premiered at Sadler's Wells on Tuesday, were those of Mark Tucker, Howard Milner and Gordon Jones singing a selection of Scherzi musicale and Madrigals by Monteverdi: eight pieces in all, chosen from four collections published between 1607 and 1631. The light footsteps were those of nine dancers, whose soft boots tread on a cloth painted to resemble a tiled floor.

Peter Mumford's setting, with the background also in a diamond pattern but treated to give the illusion of a scrumpled parchment, makes a handsome environment for Alston's choreography, the subdued colours being echoed in Candida Cook's costumes, where the sharp lines and angles of the decor recur to provide a contrast to the long extensions and curves of the dance patterns.

Alston's aim in *Voices and Light Footsteps*, apart from matching the mixture of passion and restraint in the music, seems to have been to explore the contrasted qualities of his dancers' bodies. Mary Evelyn and Albert van Nierop, for instance, are given a duet (to "Con che soavità" from Book VII) that extends their long limbs into smooth slow curves, whereas Catherine Beque's solo passages make use of her speed and bouncy lightness.

Perhaps because of this emphasis — and also, I fear, because some Rambert dancers are not good at musical phrasing — the larger ensembles, especially for the men (who outnumber the women six to three), are less satisfying than the dances for couples or trios which fortunately make up most of the action.

There are three male duets, not erotic but often very tender. One of them, for Hugh Craig and Ikky Maas, to "Interrotte speranza" from Book VII, brings the ballet to a sweetly sad close as both men sink to the ground and the head of one comes to rest on the other's shoulder.

I suspect that many people would enjoy the ballet more if the words and a translation could be made available. However, the fragmented structure allows Alston to maintain a flow of interesting movement that pushes his dancers hard. Apart from those already mentioned, Bruce Michelson seems especially well suited to Alston's inventions.

John Percival

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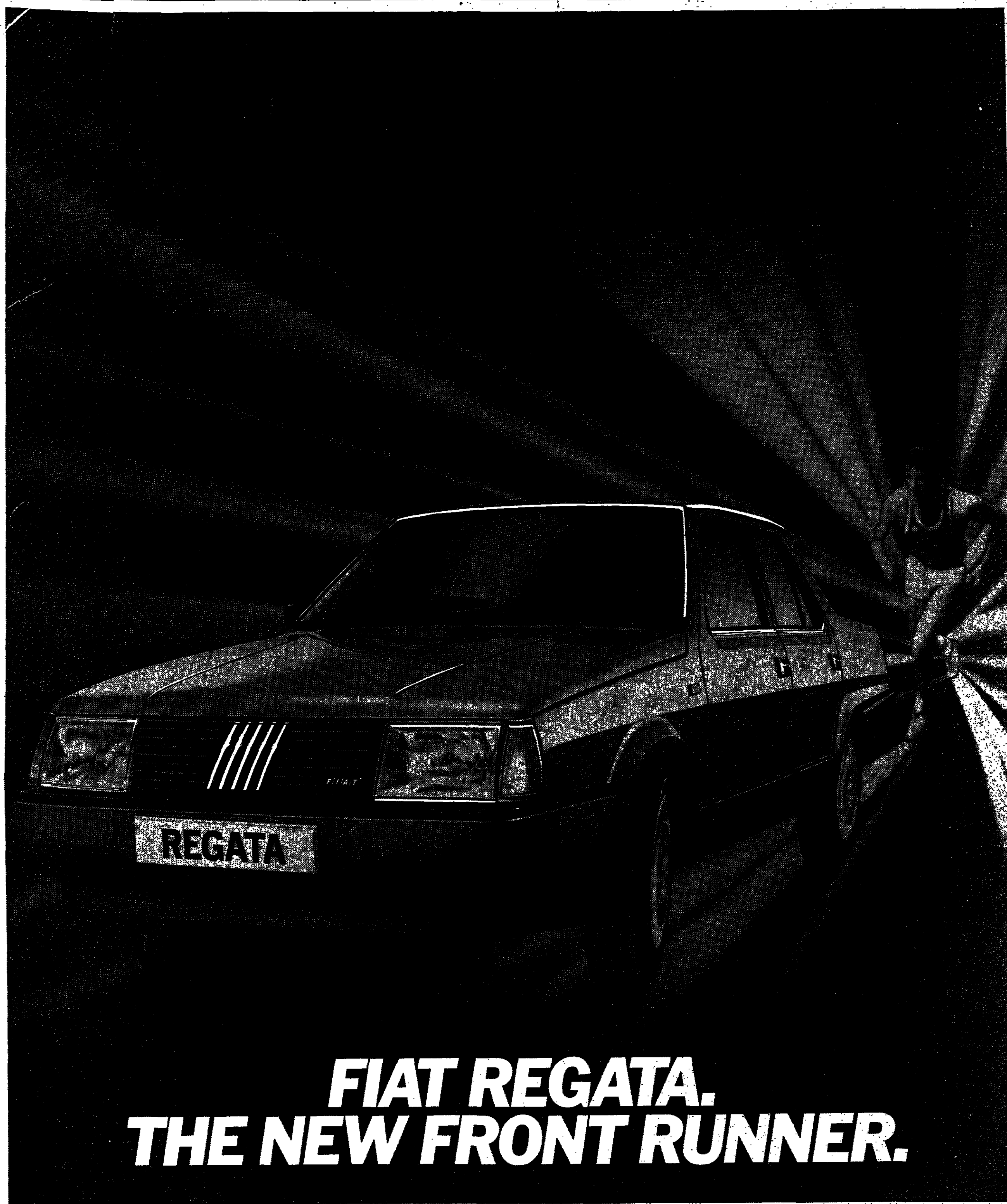
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Custodian of the people's art

The Times Profile: Sir Ernst Gombrich

A comfortable Edwardian house in St John's Wood is not exactly the place you would expect to find the art historian, Sir Ernst Gombrich. However pleasant it would be to live in, with the sun streaming through the windows of the comfortable sitting-room (half of it taken up by a grand piano), it is not strikingly fashionable or exquisite. But Sir Ernst is not that kind of art historian. He has a distrust of "aesthetes" and "connoisseurs" — both words that he can make sound almost sinister by a heightening of his rich Austrian accent.

And he is reluctant to overplay his own personality or the events of his life. He is 75 tomorrow, and he has so far succeeded in resisting publishers' attempts to persuade him to write his autobiography. Yet he is one of those rare academics who, without intending it, have become household names. Sir Ernst's *The Story of Art* has, astonishingly, sold two million copies.

It is typical of his modesty that he calls *The Story of Art* "a children's book". The children in question must be prepared for some tough thinking. He may, however, have found an ideal child reader in his son, Richard, who has become Professor of Sanskrit at Oxford. Sir Ernst, in his work in the history of art, has been preoccupied with the psychology of perception — hence his views about "aesthetes" and others devoted to style more than to meaning. But he also has a gift for making difficult concepts seem plain.

'Do you want to be a dealer?'

He speaks precisely, but with a sense of humour — jokingly accepting that his greatest contribution to the Warburg Institute in the University of London, of which he was director for 17 years, was to insist that the new common room had an espresso machine.

A taste for strong coffee was one of many legacies of an upbringing in Vienna, from which city he had just returned when I spoke to him. Vienna in the early twentieth century was a city of music, and as his mother was a pianist, Sir Ernst was brought up "to regard great music as a revelation of higher values". This approach did not tally with his later philosophy, but he does not regret that he was exposed to it. Pleasure in music persisted: witness his piano, which was made in Vienna.

It was through music, also, that he met his wife, Ilse. She had been a pupil of his mother, who taught, as well as played the piano. Hikes in the Alps and visits to old churches and monasteries and ancient sites were part of Sir Ernst's childhood. "School, of which we only had four or five periods in the morning, was felt to be a bothersome interruption in the process of initiation", he has written in his latest book, *Tributes*, to be published next month. He still walks in Austria and Switzerland, although he says his knees do not let him go as far, or as high up as before.

Early twentieth-century Vienna was

buzzing with the teachings of Freud. In *Tributes*, an account of Sir Ernst's induction into the world of art and ideas comes in a reminiscence of Ernst Kris, an astonishing man, who combined a career as a psychiatrist (Freud himself invited him to edit the magazine *Imago*) with that of a keeper at the Kunsthistorische Museum of Vienna. The young Gombrich had an initiation of fire. "Do you want to be a dealer?" Kris asked, in the course of an harangue to which he submitted the boy when he asked to see an object from the collections. "Do you want to write expert opinions for collectors? If not, why are you here? To say you like art is no sufficient reason." If he was rich enough to collect, he should have collected. Otherwise not enough was known about art for valid statements to be made, Kris asserted.

Despite this reception, Ernst persevered and won round his formidable mentor by parodying him in a university play. Kris finally invited him to become his co-author in a history of caricature, which would explore the analogy Freud made between art and verbal wit. "We wrote a fat book which was not published because Hitler came. Only a little Penguin, and certain articles, were published." But the work was one of the elements that pulled Sir Ernst towards the psychology of the visual image, which was to become the subject of the masterwork, *Art and Illusion*, first published in 1960.

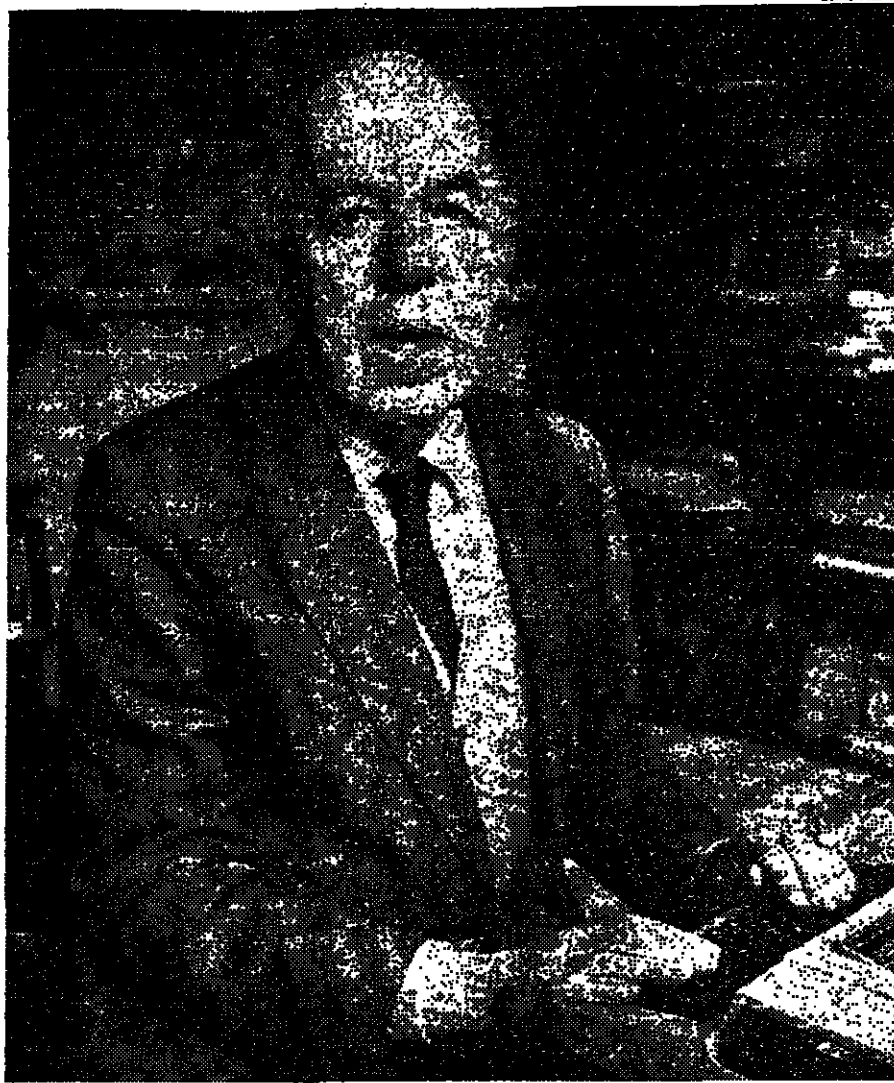
The photograph that Lady Gombrich carries in her purse shows Sir Ernst as a handsome young man of 27. ("Sic transit gloria mundi", he commented wryly when she showed it me.) It was taken in 1936, the year he came to England.

He had made the journey from Vienna at the invitation of Fritz Saxl. Three years earlier, Saxl and five other scholars had arrived in a ship from Hamburg with the 60,000 books, packed in 600 cases, that represented the Warburg Library. Its founder, Aby Warburg, was the eldest son of a banker and himself a scholar. Sir Ernst never met him.

Being German, Warburg had been less interested in connoisseurship — the history of art for the history of art's sake — than with the history of civilization in a broader sense. He had been impelled by the urge to find explanations, and this remains a characteristic of the institute that bears his name.

The Warburg Institute's immersion in subjects such as iconography distinguishes it from its arch-rival in London University, the Courtauld Institute, whose more traditionally English approach to scholarship derives from the collecting and museum worlds. Sir Ernst likens it to a "mart of cultural history", in which the brokers are historians, philosophers and economists, as well as art historians. The need to exchange ideas explains the importance of the espresso machine.

All his life, Warburg had to fight against "inexplicable and unexplained states of anxiety which threatened his mental balance". For some years he was forced to withdraw to a mental



hospital, following the collapse of Germany after the First World War. Personal experience, therefore, drew him to an interest in psychology: he found that an explanation for the power of art was that it enabled disturbing images to be held at arm's length. The legacy of this interest accorded well with Sir Ernst's previous work, and his first task as a research fellow was to edit Warburg's literary remains.

Coming to England, Sir Ernst had to exchange German for English as his first language, and his Second World War years were spent as a translator in the BBC's monitoring service. Language became a metaphor for art, and the experience of finding that the same things could not be said precisely in each language, English and German, strengthened his conviction that visual images could only mean something in the context of a tradition. Sir Ernst does not believe that artists work in complete freedom: "If you could prove to me that Frans Hals was a pupil of Comabue, I would have to pack up."

When he arrived in Britain, Sir Ernst had already done some work on *The Story of Art*. It had its genesis in a history of the world for children he had been asked to write in Vienna. The publishers had asked Sir Ernst for a further children's volume on the history of art. At first he refused. History could be made vivid by tales of conquerors or great reformers, but the history of art did not offer so many thrilling incidents. Nevertheless, he wrote a few specimen chapters — first in German, then in English — and showed them to an English publisher.

Then the war broke out, and eventually Sir Ernst found that he did

not have time even for this diversion. By the end of the war, however, he had accepted a contract and Phaidon were pressing him to finish the text. "I was again a little fed up because I wanted to get back to my real research; but I had this obligation. So I dictated to somebody three times a week, just off the cuff as it were."

Although he may not like the tradition of the connoisseur represented by the late Lord Clark, Sir Ernst shares his sublime gift of being able to convey deep experiences before works of art simply, vividly and pleasurably. His elegant style has the human touch. It is Sir Ernst's conviction "that the past was not peopled by abstractions but by men and women".

Heading for a Dark Age in the humanities

Albeit only a "children's book", *The Story of Art* changed Sir Ernst's life. It was reviewed by one of the electors to the Slade Professorship at Oxford, to which Sir Ernst was duly appointed in 1950. The prestige that the professorship carried with it established his reputation in the United States. Nine years later he became director of the Warburg and Professor of the History of the Classical Tradition at London University, from which he retired in 1976. He still lives the exacting life of a busy professor, giving papers and attending conferences, frequently abroad.

He has raised his voice in the present debate over higher education. "I am

SIR ERNST GOMBRICH b. 1909, Vienna. Son of Dr Karl E. Gombrich, vice-pres. of the Disciplinary Council of Lawyer's Chambers; his mother was a pianist. Educated at the Theresianum Vienna and Vienna University. 1936 came to England as Research fellow in the Warburg Institute, University of London. 1939-45 BBC Monitoring Service. 1946 returned to the Warburg. 1950 *The Story of Art*. 1950-53 Slade Professor at Oxford. 1953-76 director of the Warburg Institute and Professor of the History of the Classical Tradition in the University of London. 1960 *Art and Illusion*. 1963 *Meditations on a Hobby Horse*. 1966 *Norm and Form*. 1972 *In Search of Cultural History*. 1976 *The Sense of Order*.

deeply worried about the future of cultural studies", he says. He fears that, should cuts in university education continue, we may be heading for another Dark Age in the humanities. "The Secretary of State now wishes to put the emphasis on practical subjects and says that we cannot survive without them. I think we cannot survive if we have only practical subjects. Go to South America and other places where the universities are more or less confined to such subjects, and ask whether they are either so prosperous or so happy or so culturally valid."

This is one reason why he has written *Tributes*, a collection of 11 essays on individual cultural historians or, in his typically resonant phrase, "guardians of memory". Sir Ernst wishes to make more people aware of "what is actually going on in the minds" of cultural historians, at a time when they may be a threatened species. Like so much of his writing, *Tributes* is laced with convictions about the value of tradition and of the individual within tradition; and it conveys a sense of the fragility of tradition, too.

Sir Ernst has embarked on an important new field of research. "I have lectured on a subject which interests me very much, but I have not yet started writing a book on it, and that is a history of the taste for the primitive. In other words it is another angle of *Art and Illusion*. That work I described as the progress towards naturalism; now I am interested in the regress towards non-naturalism — the turning away of taste from what was considered overripe or decadent. It is a good story, with many aspects."

Does he see a regression to the primitive, even another threat to tradition, in the present state of the visual arts? He is certainly worried that the arts have become the plaything of fashion and, particularly, investment, which cannot be healthy. "But I am not pessimistic. I do not think that it will all go under or anything of that kind."

His work on the evolution of the vocabulary of the decorative arts in *The Sense of Order* demonstrated to him that the decorative arts are still in a vital condition. "Sometimes the arts that are most alive are not so much registered as art by other people. Photography is a case in point, and probably television, although I do not own a television set."

Clive Aslet

The author is senior architectural writer for Country Life. *Tributes* is to be published by Phaidon on April 19.

moreover...
Miles Kington

So what's nouvelle, chef?

Nouvelle cuisine is a wonderful thing, but it's causing a lot of trouble. The public is very confused about what it is, and what is not, nouvelle cuisine. I often see people in small restaurants turn to complete strangers and say: "Do you reckon this is nouvelle cuisine we're eating?" I myself have occasionally had to check with the waiter. Only last year, in fact, a waiter said to me: "So this is nouvelle cuisine, is it? I've often wondered."

To prevent any further confusion, we are printing today a series of guidelines to help you recognise true nouvelle cuisine. (It is out and take it with you when you go out for a meal. Don't leave it behind on the table.)

If the menu is written in French when it should obviously be written in English, this is *not* nouvelle cuisine. It is *vielle cuisine*. Vielle cuisine menus are written in French throughout from "velouté de poisson" (fish soup) to "Après Huis" (After Eight).

Nouvelle cuisine menus are usually written in English, though they cry out to be written in French. "Breasts of duckling cooked in a raspberry vinegar and tarragon sauce" doesn't sound right, somehow. It should be turned back into French right away: it's only in English to give the impression that young British chefs are now the best in the world.

In *vielle cuisine*, your order is taken by the waiter. In *nouvelle cuisine* it is taken by the proprietor, who will explain to you how everything is cooked, and probably which market he got it from.

If, when your hors d'oeuvre arrives, you are afraid to eat it for fear of spoiling the look of the arrangement, you are face to face with *nouvelle cuisine*.

Normally, when couples dine out, they like to try a bit of each other's choice. If you feel that your helping is too small to give away, it is definitely *nouvelle cuisine*.

In *vielle cuisine*, you choose what vegetables you want. In *nouvelle*, the chef chooses for you.

If at any point during the meal you find yourself being stared at by the thousand little black eyes of a slice of kiwi fruit, you are in *nouvelle cuisine*.

Look at the menu for signs of fascinating combinations of things never combined before. It is very *nouvelle* to have raspberry vinegar, curried yoghurt, rosemary ice cream, rhubarb pâté, green peppercorn sorbet, etc.

If the attractive, muted colours of your food tend to match the attractive, muted colours of the restaurant décor, this is *très nouvelle cuisine*.

Nouvelle cuisine crockery is almost always plain white and very stylish. In the very best places, the plates are not even round: they are hexagonal or octagonal!

In *vielle cuisine*, coffee is brought in a cup or poured into your cup. In *nouvelle*, it is brought in its own little glass jug with one of those devices which goes down inside and left for you to look at. When a traditional chef has finished for the evening, he goes home. A *nouvelle cuisine* chef tours the tables telling you how much you have enjoyed the meal, and explaining why. He then slumps at a table with the proprietor and a few friends and starts enjoying the evening himself.

As you leave a *nouvelle cuisine* restaurant, you find yourself saying: "That was a wonderful meal. We really must go back there again." You mean the first sentence, but not the second.

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FINDINGS

A series reporting on research: SPACE



The SMM spacecraft

Satellite rescue

During the next space shuttle mission, scheduled for April 9, Challenger will manoeuvre alongside an ailing satellite. The pilot, Francis Scobee, will keep the shuttle steady as astronaut George Nelson dons a spacesuit and crawls out on the payload bay. He will then launch himself towards the sick spacecraft using the backpack tested on the previous mission to propel him the 60 metres across space. He will hold the craft and use his thrusters to stop it spinning and bring it under control. Only when this has been done will the shuttle's manipulator arm be able to grasp it and pull it into the cargo bay.

The satellite to be recovered is called the Solar Maximum Mission (SMM) spacecraft. It is an advanced multi-instrument platform designed to obtain high-quality detailed images of the sun, but since December 1960 it has been crippled.

SMM was launched in February 1980 and for the next 10 months it accumulated a wealth of data on our nearest star. It carried on board seven instruments most of which were designed to look at solar flares, enormous explosions on the sun's surface that occur when huge amounts of gas are

explosively heated to multi-million degree temperatures. By looking with SMM's instruments solar physicists hope to be able to determine the cause and mechanism of these flares. The sun undergoes a cycle of activity which reaches a crescendo every 11 years or so and SMM was launched, true to its name, at the peak of cycle 21.

Taking shape

Discovery, NASA's third shuttle and its first production standard is taking shape at Rockwell's Palmdale factory in the US. Discovery embodies many improvements over the other two shuttles, Columbia and Challenger. The most obvious of these is a new type of insulation blanket which replaces the 8000 white, silica-foam tiles. Called Advanced Flexible Reusable Surface Insulation or AFRSI for short it is much less damage prone and far easier to apply. It costs about \$2000 a square metre — five times less than the tiles.

Discovery will fly this summer and the fourth shuttle, called Atlantis, will fly in October 1985. NASA has recently received a preliminary go-ahead for a fifth orbiter.

Rent a craft

An American aerospace company is beginning work on a revolutionary new type of satellite whose payloads can be changed in orbit by astronauts from the space shuttle. Naturally enough the concept is being called *leasecraft*.

Leasecraft is arguably the first project that will make full use of the advantages of the space shuttle. Customers are expected to "rent" a position on the satellite for at least six months at a time for an estimated cost of

about \$2m to \$4m a month at today's prices.

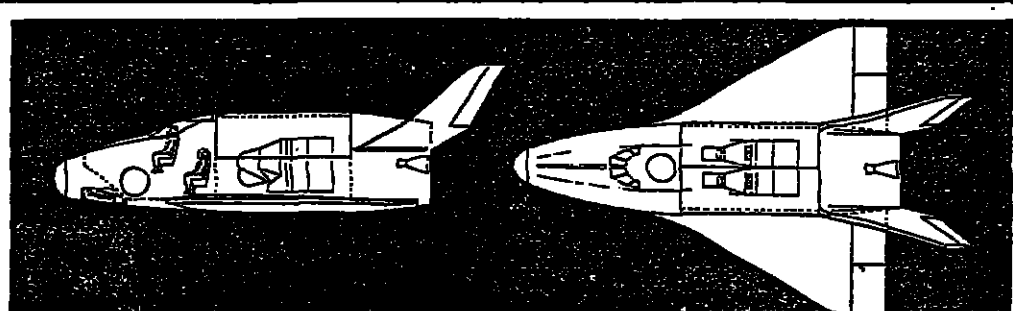
French mini

French space scientists are studying plans for a manned mini-shuttle vehicle called Hermes. France already produces the Ariane launcher series which is in direct competition with the United States space shuttle in launching communication satellites.

The Hermes craft, as well as an unmanned space station called Solaris, have been under study for the past few years.

Aiming high?

Britain has yet to select its first two astronauts from the four candidates for shuttle flights in 1985 and 1986. Anyone thinking of applying for the next round of astronauts should bear



First plan for Hermes

in mind the Canadian experience.

Canada has experiments for shuttle flights scheduled for November 1985 and last year advertised for astronauts. Of the 4,100 applicants about half were rejected outright and following a series of interviews about 75 went to Ottawa for tests. Of these only six will start training and only two will go into space.

David Whitehouse

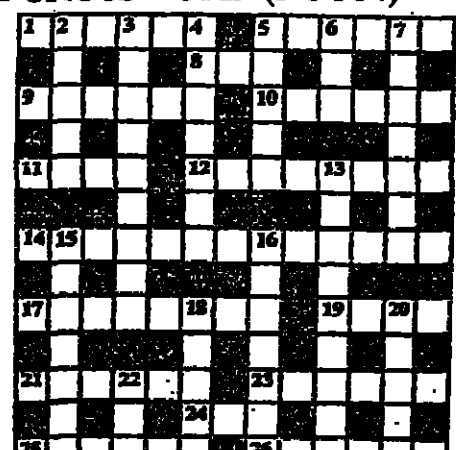
CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 304)

ACROSS

- 1 Word linking mark (6)
- 5 Comedian's butt (6)
- 8 World peace body (1,1,1)
- 9 Meeting minimum (6)
- 10 Not much (6)
- 11 Against (4)
- 12 Deride (8)
- 13 Informer (13)
- 17 Many (8)
- 19 Small bay (4)
- 21 Small restaurant (6)
- 23 Seek retribution (6)
- 24 Automobile (3)
- 25 Subdivision (6)
- 26 Lace mat (6)

DOWN

- 2 Youthful (5)
- 3 Tough, shrewd (9)
- 4 Number symbol (7)
- 5 Substantial (5)



- 6 Not at home (3)
- 7 Jesus's province (7)
- 13 Irritable (9)
- 15 Transporter (7)
- 16 Illegitimate child (7)
- 18 Era (5)
- 19 Popular style (5)
- 22 Half score (3)

SOLUTION TO No 303

- ACROSS: 1 Fulfil 4 Lavish 7 Raft 8 Multiple 9 Ask mercy 12 Pop 15 Coyote 16 Futile 17 Tie 19 Footsop 24 Offspring 25 Heap 26 Pagoda 27 Crayon
- DOWN: 1 Fire 2 Lifestyle 3 Gamma 4 Lillac 5 Vain 6 Seive 10 Motif 11 Hours 12 Philately 13 Pieb 14 Scout 18 India 19 Outfit 21 Logic 22 Hero 23 Spin

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BOOKS

Michael Ratcliffe on politics and the press The leaders we deserve

The Rise and Fall of the Political Press
By Stephen Koss

(Hamish Hamilton, £25)

"If Bonar places himself in my hands," wrote Lord Rothermere to Lord Beaverbrook in 1923, "I will hand him down to posterity at the end of three years as one of the most successful Prime Ministers in history, and if there is a General Election, I will get him returned again."

Rothermere the First, that is, also known as Rothermere the Arrogant and Rothermere the Lugerious. The quite staggering presumptions of men like Northcliffe, Rothermere and Beaverbrook, the public affairs of this country is one of the chief themes of Stephen Koss's masterly and enthralling second volume in which he moves out of the remote but active corners of 19th century England into the ages immediately preceding our own and the cold clear light of metropolitan day.

Writing now about a national press and only about regional newspapers when they aspire to national impact, not even Professor Koss can say beyond question whether Rothermere could have delivered his boast. The links between politics, Government, Parliament and the Press, meticulously formalized along financial and ideological lines in the Victorian age, grew both more intense and far less predictable from the Liberal landslide of 1906 and as the franchise widened, but what effect the political line of a paper actually had on the voting of its individual readers is far harder to define.

Professor Koss begins with Joseph Chamberlain and ends with the first and inconclusive Royal Commission on the Press in 1947, with a final postscript on the changes of ownership and inexorable descent into trivialization since: if the effect

of the backing offered to Margaret Thatcher by *The Sun* in the 1979 election falls outside his brief, the long, miserable decline and sudden death of the *News Chronicle* does not. Press and politics reflect one another throughout the final departure of Lloyd George in 1922, evaporated slowly and feebly, in no way revitalizing the Party from whose health alone its own had sprung. Sickness was catching.

The Rise and Fall of the Political Press is exceptionally well written and, while it goes without saying that it will be devoured by politicians and journalists, rising and falling alike, its mind and references are broad enough for it to be enjoyed by the general reader who will frequently read amazed. Koss displays a near-mischievous delight in the more sententious and bizarre aspects of human behaviour and a wit which is invariably apt. Absorbing enormous quantities of printed documentation and unpublished private papers, he also possesses a near-Wagnerian ability to distinguish the wood from the trees, keeping the reader simultaneously aware of both.

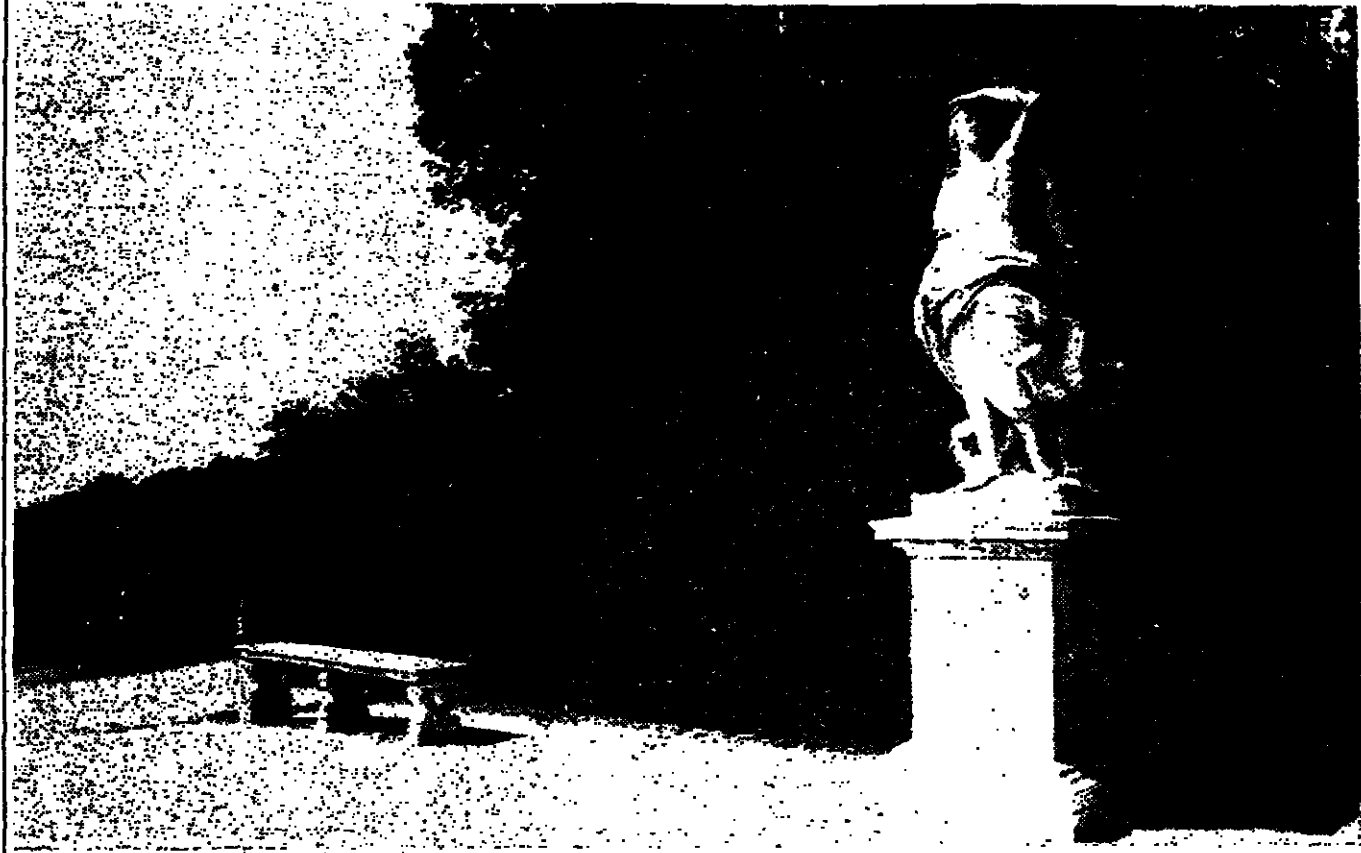
It could be argued that politics as such became boring to the majority of people in this country from the fall of Lloyd George in 1922, which more or less coincided with the death of Northcliffe and the rise of publishing groups combining newspapers with other diversified interests. Few proprietors emerge with great credit from Koss's second volume, except perhaps Lady Bathurst, whose plainness and quiescent exchanges with the editor of her *Morning Post* provide some of the most delicious and least expected moments in the book, and the Astors, both at *The Times* and at *The Observer*, because they gave their editors the responsibility to edit and because, following the near-invincible Conservatism of

Garvin at *The Observer*, because David Astor was the first London proprietor-editor to evolve and make work a true political independence. As to *The Times*, Dawson is given the benefit of the doubt until further evidence is produced - and Koss shows that it was the *Telegraph*, not *The Times*, to be fully briefed by Baldwin during the Abdication crisis - and Barington-Ward's stature is increased. Rothermere planned to buy the paper on his brother Northcliffe's death and to put Lloyd George in as editor. Churchill wanted to requisition it as a source of official news during the First World War, a dream later realized briefly and breathlessly in the *British Gazette*, edited during the general strike from the *Morning Post* on the Strand, of which a very funny account is given here: "For really serious business," Churchill instructed his staff, "the *Times* should be garrisoned, and the Lyceum occupied with a detachment."

What emerges above all from this majestic piece of writing and research is the interrelatedness of British parliamentary and extra-parliamentary life, and this gives the book its unusual resonance and range. Koss ends with an epitaph on the rise and fall of the political press which is also an epitaph on the fall of just about everything else. It was written by Anthony Crossland in *Encounter* in 1962. The media, he considered, were often less sinister than people liked to make out.

But all too often we make them a scapegoat for our deeper failings - for our national vices of philistinism and puritanism; for our deep-seated anti-intellectualism; for our deplorable educational system; and, in the case of intellectuals, for personal failings of our own.

In other words, we get the press, as we get the leaders and the Parliament, that we deserve, and we have nobody to blame but ourselves.



A statue beckons off-stage for a companion for whom the stone bench is waiting, Parc de Versailles, 1901

The story of France frozen on plates

The Ancien Régime

The Work of Atget: Volume Three
(Gordon Fraser, £30)

"These are simply documents I make," Atget's self-deprecating view of his obsession belied the vastness of a project he devised thirty years before his death in 1927. It was to record for posterity the civilization of France as revealed in the art and architecture of Paris and in the cradle of French culture, the Ile de France. Obscure during his lifetime (he turned to photography at 40 after careers as a sailor and an actor) Atget has trickled by fits and starts into the history of modern photography.

With *Modern Times* yet to come (which should include selections from his 1899 selection of *petits métiers* or street traders on the verge of extinction) the present

volume represents the summit of Atget's achievement. If *Old Paris* constituted a quixotically selective Second-Empire record, lacking in the Opéra, the Eiffel Tower and the great boulevards, then the *Ancien Régime* gives full rein to his interest in the landmarks of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. In the formal gardens of Versailles, St Cloud and Sceaux he confronted the paradigms of authoritarian France, but characteristically ignored the obvious pictures. Neurdin Frères, suppliers of photographic postcards to the hordes of bicyclists who fled the city at weekends, had established a thriving industry by the 1890s, and their full-frontal views of Le Van and Mansart's great Château at Versailles were best-sellers. Atget steered clear: instead, he reduced the grandiose to an intimate scale, seeking out lonely unremarkable corners (as in the villages of the Ile de France)

where something might be about to happen. The statue (above) beckons off-stage to one for whom the stone bench is waiting, a picture which epitomizes the drama latent in all Atget's photographs. His version of the zenith of French culture found expression in such stylish and artfully constructed set-pieces, apparently drained of content and anything but *touristlike* in intention. Instead, they create a mood of anticipation which heralds a wars-and-all investigation. Ornate urns are shown close up, scrawled with the scatological endearments of countless day-trippers. The gardener is as likely to set foot upon this stage as the aristocrat, for these subtle, oblique pictorial gestures remain shrouded in ambiguity. These were simply documents he made, but are not simple documents.

Rory Coonan

On safari for extinct and rare species

The Men Who Would be King
By Nicholas Shakespeare

(Sidgwick & Jackson, £9.95)

The author of this look at Royalty in exile (who "reviews regularly for *The Times*") disarms other reviewers by announcing the limitations of his book within the first pages. He is, he declares, "a newcomer to the royal scene" - worse still, he has taken "an idiosyncratic journey" into the world of royal exile "neither authoritative nor exhaustive". One or two important figures are largely ignored because they refused to see him. He cites King Constantine of Greece, King Simon of the Bulgarians and the Count of Paris. It is perhaps churlish to regret that he did not extend his horizons further and make his book more comprehensive, but that is to misinterpret his chosen brief. In a sense what follows is a safari into the royal world, the success of which depends on which royal happens to come in range of the author's viewfinder.

Besides the three examples cited, King Michael of Romania (who first acceded to the throne 37 years ago) eluded the author. So did the rarely seen Prince of Montenegro (a trade inspector in Paris), the amiable King Fuad of Egypt and the rather fine-looking Prince Louis Napoleon (both resident in Paris). Grand Duke Vladimir of Russia was not about, but an obscure cousin, Prince Umberto was captured shortly before his demise.

Mr Shakespeare also inspected some already extinct species of exiled royals, putting their lives in historical perspective. He even went to see the coffin of King Carol and Madame Lupescu. In his introduction, Anthony Holden declares: "It would be too easy to mock exiled royalty, whose pretensions often belie the real world." The only exile who consistently defies mockery from this author (or any other) is Dr Otto Hapsburg, now a member of the European Parliament. With his keen interest in Europe in the 1980s, his well-developed intelligence, and a certain aggressive manner, he succeeds in keeping Mr Shakespeare firmly in his place. The author is certainly at his best and most justified when he turns a cold eye onto the royalty-watchers. Royalty watching is like drinking. It can have the most disturbing consequences if it gets out of control.

This book has another curious aspect. It results from Mr Shakespeare's research for a BBC documentary of the same name. Thus some of the interviews, given apparently to those conversations we first saw on the small screen with his Altesse-loving alter-ego, Anthony Holden. Mr Holden is a fan of the author: "Those who have met Nicholas Shakespeare will be familiar with his inexhaustible supply of charm."

By and large an accurate book, there are no "German Archdukes". And I question the author's definition of being civilized as deriving from being spanked by British nannies.

Hugo Vickers

When Irish eyes ...

A Writer's Ireland
By William Trevor

(Thames & Hudson, £9.50)

Images of Belfast
By Robert Johnstone and Bill Kirk

(Blackstaff Press with the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, £12.50)

Nothing becomes William Trevor's literary journey through time and space in Ireland like his ending of it, *Validation*. Louis MacNeice's calm, terrible dismissal of drums, and drolled-up Virgins, and ignorant dead crowding a misty, mystical landscape of Irish hokey, shows the landscape of an Irish heart as comprehensively as anything written in English by Irish users of it.

A jumble of references seeking to reflect Irish landscape in literature from "the magnificence of Celtic influence ... a unique conjunction of people and place reached when the story of Christ stole the limelight from Cuchulainn to latter-day chronicles of battered Derry and Down, is not really up to very much; but up-and-going coffee table owners in Clapham and Chiswick will not worry about that. Mr Trevor's commentary travels along nicely, mostly on autopilot, if not autocue, in this handsomely produced, sleepily constructed, boringly (but lavishly) illustrated survey of a literary goldmine.

"The Reformation was a stumbling block". You can say that again. Mr Trevor does not dare, nor explain it, except obliquely, in talk of Sir Walter Raleigh's potatoes. Indeed, there is some characteristically Anglo-Irish ambivalence stumbling between 1169 - the Irish equivalent of 1066 - and 1922, when the "Anglo" strain in Ireland's literary pedigree was officially pronounced dead, in 26 countries.

It has yet to lie down. Writers like William Trevor (b. 1928, Co Cork) still stand witness to it; and the Censorship of Publications Act (b. 1929, 1946, 1967, Dublin) does the rest; still assiduously ensuring the sovereignty of the second-rate in the literature of Ireland as a modern sovereign state. "Ignorance has its advantages," Robert Johnstone claims to come to "no very serious conclusion" in the strolling, humorous, surprisingly shrewd prose chapters which accompany Bill Kirk's no less admirable photographs in *Images of Belfast*. But between them they have made a book beautiful to look at, healthy, wealthy, and wise to read: a degree of artistic achievement to preserve - astonishingly - even the integrity of coffee tables.

The book needs an index. But it is a comprehensible delight: a comprehensive expression of mature affection free of illusion, whining, or pretence; fit to make William Trevor, startled, eat his heart out, and Louis MacNeice's ghost sit up and laugh.

Gay Firth

Robert Nye reviews poetry Rag bag of sonnets

"Fortunately he had not come to Rome to look at the ruins but to work." Thus C. H. Sisson, one of the best of living poets in the English language, about his sixteenth century French forerunner, Joachim du Bellay. Du Bellay went to Rome in 1553, as a young man in the train of a cardinal-diplomat. He was already an accomplished versifier, a literary performer of the highest order; it is perhaps not too much to say that it was Rome, and the work he had to do there, which made him a poet by rubbing his nose in actuality. Du Bellay, a Renaissance man, his syllable-counting fingerprints, found himself suddenly thrust into exile in a corrupt court at the heart of the civilized world, his days filled up with politics and business and intrigues. Doubtless to unpack his mind of such stuff, he wrote sonnets to his friends at home in France, and the result is the volume known as *Les Regrets*, a rag bag or plumb pudding of a book, a collection of casual and unaffected poems in a colloquial style about so far removed from conventional Petrarchan pomp as it is possible to imagine. This is the sequence now translated for us by Sisson as *The Regrets* (Carcanet Press, £4.50 paperback), catching the attractively intimate and conversational tone of the original from the word go.

I offer you this little book. Sweet and bitter, take a look. And take a grain of salt with either. That will give you the right flavour. If you like that it suits your palate, I invite you, come and have it. If it doesn't, stay away. It is not compulsory.

Sisson is a splendid translator in that he makes authentic new verse in English which rings true to all the life and immediacy he has found in the original text. What he values in Du Bellay, as in all real literature, so he tells us, is the contact his work gives with "the mind of a man who survives the differences of centuries and speaks to us directly." Few recent books of verse in English are so rich in such directness as this one. It is Sisson's best translation since his Dante.

I wish I could be as welcoming to a volume of translations of "all the important early Icelandic traditional poetry" Norse Poems, by W. H. Auden and Paul B. Taylor (Faber, £4.50 paperback). Auden's knowledge of the sagas is not in doubt, but it appears that he relied upon Taylor for literal translations which (Taylor's words) "he turned into poetic garb." Taylor insists that the product is essentially

Nicholas Shakespeare on fiction of the week Burgess on Shakespeare

Enderby's Dark Lady
By Anthony Burgess

(Hutchinson, £7.95)

The Course of Instruction
By David Wheldon

(Bodley Head, £7.95)

The Camomile Lawn
By Mary Wesley

(Macmillan, £8.95)

Just when you thought it was safe to go back in the lavatory, just when it seemed the chain had been pulled on him once and for all, Enderby - that



Bard winks at Burgess

from. If anything this second novel is more powerful still. Another Alexander - or perhaps the same one - received a letter, which he assumes to be official, inviting him to attend a course of instruction. He travels by train to the appointed town and finds the house. Led inside, he discovers the servants have no inkling of his course, he enquiries are answered elliptically, or left unanswered. So too is the master's bell. Things are evidently on a different plane in this house.

The Course of Instruction is a stark, disorienting work. It draws one into a cold, passionless world of vague places and faceless, etiolated characters who are nevertheless described in prose that is meticulously precise. Meticulous too is the way David Wheldon sustains his allegory and mystery. In fact, so stylized is the result that it reads like what would have happened had Kafka got his hands on *Upstairs Downstairs*.

It is hard to overpraise Mary Wesley's second novel. She published her first, *Jumping the Queue*, when she was 70 and has evidently grown old as she writes - with exceptional grace and understanding, and an undimmed twinkle in her eye

"Time had done something terrible to Tony Wood". So tingling and spry with life is *The Camomile Lawn* that put a mirror to the book and I'll almost swear it will mist over with the breath of the five young cousins who form its core. Admittedly, they are heavy breathers all of them, from the time just before the last war when they climb cliffs together at their aunt's house in Cornwall, to the war itself when, hearts lurching, they are ever hopping in and out of bed. "We all lived intensely," they exult. Fear made "the delights all the more so, the surprises more surprising."

And what surprises. One cousin comes face to face with a herd of llamas on the moors (evacuated from Painsford 200); another pushes a flashing Enderby-like coastguard off the cliff. And at their giddy centre, the heaviest breather of them all, is Calypso. All the men are in love with her and she sleeps with them all, complaining, "I'm not the sort of girl who can love."

"We had an awful lot of fun," each character admits unashamedly. So will anyone, who reads Mary Wesley's account of it.

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OR
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THE TIMES DIARY

Red Ken's Redgrave

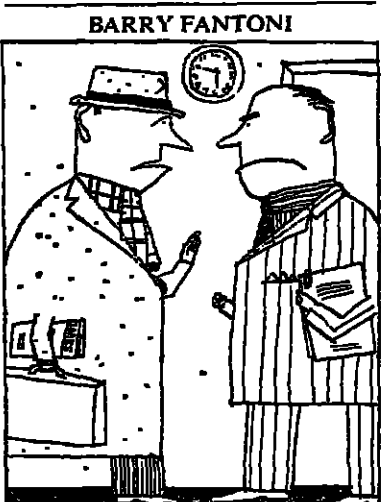
The political firebrand, Vanessa Redgrave, yesterday attempted to close London's theatres in support of the GLC's "democracy day". Redgrave rallied the cast of *The Aspern Papers*, in which she is starring with Christopher Reeve and Dame Wendy Hiller at the Haymarket theatre, to vote in favour of a one-day strike in sympathy for "Red" Ken Livingstone, the GLC leader. The motion - which was opposed by the *Aspern Papers* manager, Griffith James - was passed by four votes to three, and was immediately referred by Redgrave to Equity's executive committee for strike action by all theatres in London. James tells me he has given up "wasting his breath" in political arguments with Redgrave. Her strike was thwarted, however, when her motion failed to make Equity's agenda.

Fighting back

Despite being left "just the right side of bankruptcy", Derek Jameson is to lodge an appeal today for the retrial of his unsuccessful libel case against the BBC. Jameson, who was landed with £75,000 costs, is claiming misdirection by the judge, his lawyer, Peter Carter-Ruck, said yesterday: "No reasonable jury if properly directed could fail to find that the words complained of contained defamatory imputation of fact." His Fleet Street friends, meanwhile, have donated £7,000 towards Jameson's fighting fund - to which, I am told, even Mrs Carter-Ruck has contributed.

Mouthpiece

Gary Hart doesn't know it, but the Americans-with-Hart-in-London are about to wheel in Larry Adler as their next star fund-raiser. The mouth organist campaigned in 1948 for failed presidential candidate Henry Wallace, and was driven out of the US the following year after being blacklisted as a communist subversive. The Americans, who attempted to strip him of his citizenship in 1956, refused to grant him concert fixtures when he returned because, according to the impresario, Sol Hurok, "Republican ladies have long memories." Now Adler is certain to keep the Democrat ladies sweet. Yesterday he received an invitation from the Cambridge Union asking him to take part in the debate: This house would re-elect Ronald Reagan. "There are a few things I'll be saying about Reagan which no one else knows," he said. Such as "Such as the time Reagan met a committee of Hollywood citizens which I was on in 1944. He was then president of the Screen Actors Guild, and thought we were left-wing. He turned up with a load of goons who started swinging bicycle chains around."



Flickering fate

As staff at the Hayward Gallery brace themselves for a management meeting today, at which the effects of Arts Council cuts will be revealed, it looks like their South Bank home is to be taken over by the British Film Institute for conversion to a film museum. A meeting of BFI governors last week was surprised when their chairman, Sir Richard Attenborough, raised the idea of using the Hayward for the proposed £5m Museum of the Moving Image. Professor Christopher Frayling, a governor who is also deputy chairman of the Art Council's art advisory panel, protested that the discussion was prejudging the Hayward's future. "I felt Sir Richard knew something that we didn't", he said. Until now, the only site seriously discussed for the institute's museum has been one under Waterloo Bridge, next to the National Film Theatre. Still £2.5m short of its target, the institute would obviously find converting the Hayward, an appealing prospect. Yesterday Sir Richard denied any knowledge of the Hayward's fate.

Strange taste

Feminists may have difficulty in tracking down their copy of *Spare Rib* from the British Library's lending division. It is classified under the heading "Nutrition".

Flattening

Sir Terence Conran has chastised me for "aiding and abetting" the Thirties Society by reporting their outrage at his plans to rip out the unusual curved windows from Heal's. He wants to install flat ones, similar to the ones in situ in 1916, so we can see his wares more clearly. "We are not money-grubbing insensitive philistines," protests the Habitat/Mothercare king. PHS

William Waldegrave says that if local authorities defeat the Government on the issue of welfare spending, Westminster will cut town hall rights even further

Central government is in conflict with many in local government over the Rates Bill. The Government believes it cannot stop the growth in local authority current spending without new powers over their levels of expenditure. It is essential to understand the cause of all the pushing and shoving in this conflict.

The first thing is that the intensity of the pushing and shoving and the volume of noises off which accompany it, derive from the fact that neither side is easily able to win. There is good reason for this. The fact is that in one whole area of governmental activity - the management of the services of the modern welfare state - local authorities and central government are almost equally powerful partners.

But here we find a paradox. Modern local authorities have been the recipients over a century of services which have grown with the expansion of modern welfare. But it is the very area of welfare that people seem least happy to accept marked differences between one place and another. There would be uproar if the Government proposed different levels of retirement pension in different parts of the country. I am not sure that if it were easy to measure the real output of schools, people would really put up with much in the way of differing standards of education, however much local authorities claimed a mandate for it.

And in different degrees the same goes for standards of environmental health, and other services. This is why my surgeries, like those of most other MPs, are full of citizens, week in, week out, bringing to me what are really local authority matters.

That is the first paradox. Many of the very services which local authorities run are those where people seem least to accept noticeably different provisions of service. Hence at least part of the reason for the growth of the allegedly complex redistributive rate support grant system - an important innovation of the welfare state whereby central government uses local authorities effectively as agencies for the redistribution of wealth from one part of the country

New York On the sixteenth floor of a skyscraper just off Broadway 30 men and women are talking into telephones with a computer screen and keyboard by their side. They are interviewers for the Louis Harris polling organization, conducting a survey into the merits of the US telephone system. This week, before the New York primary on next Tuesday, they will be performing an identical exercise to discover what city voters think of the rival Democratic candidates, Walter Mondale and Gary Hart.

To British minds, the similarities between the marketing of telephones and presidential candidates are highly suspect, particularly given the substantial contribution of the opinion polls to Hart's rise. Americans do not see it that way. To Humphrey Taylor, president of the Louis Harris organization, opinion polls play an honourable part in the US political process, and they do so in a more subtle and responsible manner than in Britain. Taylor is well-placed to make the comparison: he is an Englishman, originally from the Lake District, who has been with Harris for the past eight years.

First, as Taylor expounds, there are important differences in the way the polls are conducted. Harris does its political polling by telephone - sacrifice to pollsters in Britain,

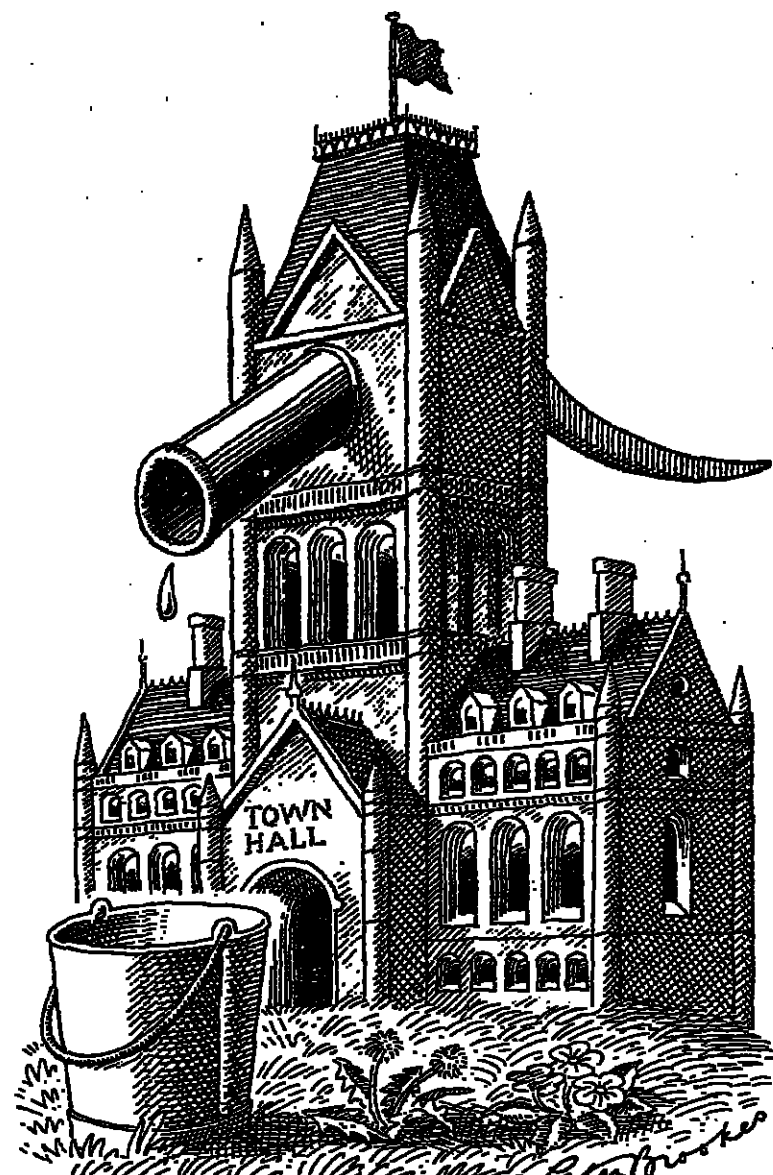
Early in May the League Against Cruel Sports will hold an extraordinary general meeting to tighten its rules of entry against infiltration. The league, which has successfully penetrated hunts with "moles" posing as hunt supporters, has itself been "mole'd" by its opponents in the hunting community.

The league's discovery of a counter-mole in its own ranks casts doubt on one of its most successful efforts at photographing instances of cruelty in hunting. The league, campaigning for the abolition of the hunting and coursing of live prey, hopes to persuade the public that though such pursuits are legal, they are cruel.

About four years ago four young men gathered round a fox earth with a shovel, a pickaxe, some terrors, a sack and a film camera. The impact of the film was heightened by the men's obvious excitement as they dragged bleary foxcubs from the earth, held them up to the camera, and dropped them into the sack.

It was heightened further by a sequence showing cubs in a wooden crate near the kennels of the Holderness Hunt on Humberside. Hunt members always deny the claim of their opponents that they are guilty of capturing foxes and taking them to hunting country so that hunts and their supporters will not be disappointed by a lack of something to chase.

The earth was dug out more than 100 miles away from the kennels by Christopher Wood, then a whipper-



to another. This is a policy objective possible only for central government. Its purpose is to ensure comparable levels of service regardless of the local capacity to provide them.

A second paradox seems to have emerged from the present round of disputes about total spending and rate-capping and is brought into focus by the question, "What would happen if local government won the present argument?" What would be the relationship between central and local government if central government were refused a power it claimed was necessary to maintain its economic policy?

It is no good local authorities arguing that the Government should not need such power or does not really need it. That is a matter for central government to judge. And, incidentally, many of local government's current allies are allies not because they believe in local government autonomy, but because they and local authorities appear to be on the same side of the battle about public spending. This is obvious about the Labour Party, but it is also true of some, though not all, of those in the Conservative

Party who have argued in favour of traditional counter-cyclical public spending in the recession. I mention this to explain the new-found interest in local authorities in some surprising places. For many, this is not an argument about local government at all, but about public spending and macro-economic policy. We shall look in vain in other years for some (but not all) of the recent rebels in local government debates.

So what would happen if local government won? Central government would be demonstrated to be powerless to control 25 per cent of public spending. It would not be possible to return to the status quo ante. Before the recent events, central government could claim that local authority spending was set by a process of consensus, with both sides believing that they retained the final say in the matter. That would not be the situation if the Government were now to accept that it did not have the right to set the limit for total local authority spending. No mythology could disguise the shift in real relationships that would have taken place. And in my view, no

Dial a poll for democracy, American-style

where only 75 per cent of households have telephones. In the US, Taylor says, the ratio is 95 per cent. Assisted by its computerized tabulation of results, Harris can obtain findings that are virtually up-to-the-minute, certainly more immediate than can be achieved in Britain. A second major difference between Britain and the US lies in whom the pollsters are prepared to hire themselves to. Taylor says that whereas British companies show no compunction working for both the media and political parties simultaneously, in the United States "the assumption is that if you are working for a candidate, you cannot be trusted to work for the media. And, that has been proved".

Taylor gives the selective leaking of poll results by politicians as an example and argues that a scrupulous separation of powers is the only way to prevent polling for the media from becoming tainted. But he is also critical of how the British media present opinion poll results: "The

mayhem they cause is an embarrassment to the industry." He cites the British media's simplistic emphasis on polling figures, without due caveats for sampling error. In the US, Harris has devoted much energy to trying to discover what political shifts underlay Hart's dramatic rise. It found that though much of Mondale's early support was among the most disadvantaged groups, they were also the least likely to vote, and that Hart's popularity among independent voters indicated the breadth of his appeal. "Without that kind of data, you couldn't really tell what was happening," Taylor said.

He is none the less sensitive to criticism of the influence wielded by opinion polls in the US, agreeing that they can make or break primary candidates. In any case, Taylor believes, nothing in the US can compare with the advantage opinion polls give British prime ministers in deciding when to call a general election. "The



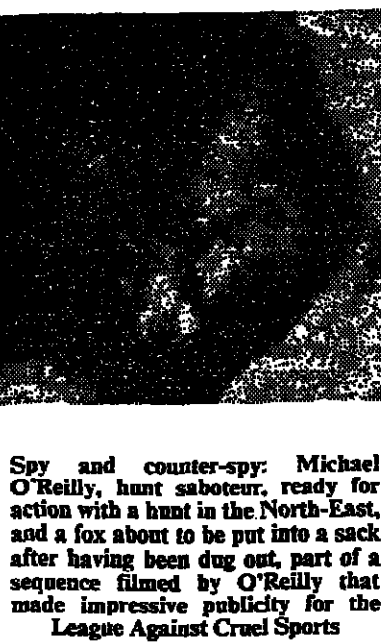
in with the Holderness. The man with the camera was known to him as Barry Coplestone, a keen hunt follower. He was really Michael O'Reilly, a dedicated hunt saboteur who was financed by the league to pose as a supporter. His job, he has now explained to *The Times*, was "really to get kills on film and discredit hunting".

His work was similar to that of Michael Huskisson, whose work as a league "mole" was disclosed in *The*

nearest comparison here is presidents who learn to manipulate the economy to maximize their chances of being re-elected, and they were probably doing that before polls were invented anyway".

Taylor makes an important obverse point. In the US, Harris does far more than sample mere voting intentions, for it has also been conducting a survey for the US government into the health care costs. It found the public more ready to consider unpalatable options than politicians give them credit for, tempting Taylor to conclude that polls can help to expand the system's political reach.

He goes on to argue that this demonstrates that the US political system is more open and sensitive than in Britain. "America really believes in the wisdom of the people," he says. "In Britain, there is no such belief." He views the British as governed by a tight coterie of politicians and civil servants who exclude the public from their debates. "In Britain," he adds, "the belief is that most of the people are not fit to be consulted and that their opinions do not really matter. Here, the assumption is that the people know best."



Spy and counter-spy: Michael O'Reilly, hunt saboteur, ready for action with a hunt in the North-East, and a fox about to be put into a sack after having been dug out, part of a sequence filmed by O'Reilly that made impressive publicity for the League Against Cruel Sports

Times last year. But Huskisson is still watching hunting for the league while O'Reilly has just been expelled from the league. O'Reilly still does not know how the league learnt that he had turned into a hunt supporter who pretended to be a saboteur who was posing as a hunt supporter. "It was a sixth sense," explained Richard Course, executive director of the league. "He was asking too many questions." The British Field

government of any political complexion could or would accept that situation for long.

It might matter less in the short term to a government that wanted to increase public spending sharply. It has always been fairly easy to raise spending by increasing the rate support grant percentage and by exhortation. It works with the grain of competitive electioneering and of organizational growth in local authorities. But I do not believe that Britain in the next half century is going to see many governments like that. As the oil runs out and unavailing welfare demands press on us from every side, I think that the concern of all government in my lifetime will be the struggle to hold down spending. Those who take a different view would, if they persisted, soon renew old acquaintanceships with the men from the International Monetary Fund.

If it were established beyond peradventure that central government could not, and should not, control local authority current spending in the aggregate, attention would increasingly be drawn to my first paradox. People would say: "This is local administration, not local government at all. We do not even want variations in local policy in welfare. Why pretend we do?" The big services would come to be managed by Whitehall and local authorities would be returned to the parish pump.

I would regard that as serious, and most likely damaging to the fabric of life in this country. Local councils are as good at managing the welfare state as we are in Whitehall - perhaps better. And, putting aside the slightly bogus autonomy alleged to reside in the power to raise some part of local authority money via a rather unsatisfactory local tax, real autonomy depends on the existence of separate major centres of administrative and political power outside Whitehall and Westminster. However admirable, the parish pump is not a big enough weapon to limit the government. Big people are needed, running big services with traditions and cultures different from those in the centre for real checks and balances.

So my final paradox is: if local authorities were successful in establishing the principle of autonomy in spending on those welfare services entrusted to them, it would be a disastrous day for local councils. It would undoubtedly be followed by drastic diminution or marginalization of their role. That is the real argument that the Government is taking too much power to the centre by clarifying Westminster's right to set limits to the total of public spending, including local government spending, could bring about a far more real and final centralization. Victory for the local authority associations now would be a disaster for local government in the end.

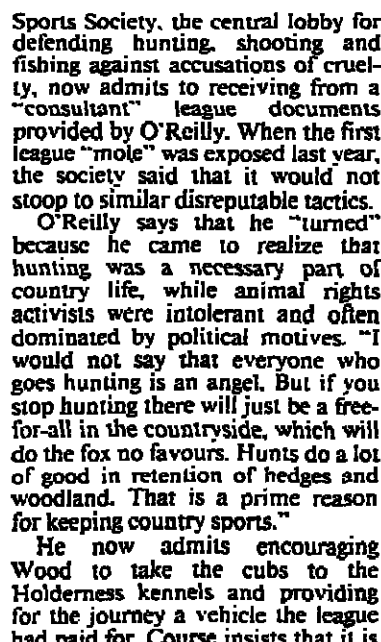
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The author is Under-Secretary of State for the Environment.

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Ronald Butt

The arrogance of the Tisdall ethic

We owe Miss Sarah Tisdall some gratitude for the candour with which she explained to the *Granada World in Action* programme why she gave *The Guardian* a secret government paper concerning the arrival of cruise missiles. She is both unrepentant and apparently unable to see why her action was wrong. Six months' imprisonment was certainly too long a sentence by comparison with penalties given for much worse offences, and unnecessarily heavy in all the circumstances. But sympathy for Miss Tisdall is no reason for failing to give her explanation, and the deplorable ethic it reveals, the close scrutiny they deserve.

Why did she give the Defence Secretary's secret memorandum to *The Guardian*? Because she "felt it was immoral" and because "she judged it to be a party political document. Any idea that her action was purely of someone young and silly acting purely in the heat of the moment is disposed of by her own words, which show her to have been responding to a clear set of political attitudes.

Asked why she took the document to *The Guardian* she answered: "Because there was nowhere else to take it. *The Guardian* is the paper I read most of the time... *The Guardian* is really the only left-of-centre, middle-of-the-road type sort of newspaper that comes out of Fleet Street..." (my italics).

The equation of left-of-centre with middle-of-the-road is, of course, at the heart of the matter. The failure of Harold Wilson's attempt to make the Labour Party a social democratic party and the victory of its left shifted the whole political spectrum sharply leftwards. Mrs Thatcher's endeavour to shift it back again is bitterly resisted. By many it is seen as providing a moral dispensation for any act which will damage the Government's policy-making and make left-of-centre once more the norm.

Miss Tisdall was not simply angry about cruise missiles but with the Government generally. "I felt that I had been let down as a voter," and that "the policies that were being implemented... were having a detrimental effect - the cuts, the cuts in health, the cuts in education, and spending large amounts of money on weapons we don't necessarily need."

What was more, she and her colleagues were having to work longer hours, and the Foreign Office was being blamed for shortcomings resulting from its lack of money. So she gave the document to *The Guardian*, and doesn't feel she "damaged the national security in any great way." Judging it to be "a party political document" she took party political action and she does not stand alone in that.

Miss Tisdall's father regards this episode as a conflict of conscience. There is one simple question Mr. Kaufman should answer. Would he be content, in power, for documents which he thought should be marked secret, to be released to (say) the *Daily Mail* just because an official of Tory inclinations thought this classification immaterial?

John P. Harris

Après vous on the sinister circuit

Somewhere near Montpellier. On May 1 the next French revolution is scheduled to occur. It will involve horseless tumblers and other vehicles on roundabouts.

British motorists venturing across the Channel had better have a good grasp of both post and pre-revolutionary roundabout techniques, because a sizable proportion of motorists in France are slow on the uptake and heavy on the throttle - the same proportion as in Britain, almost.

First, let us clarify our minds about *priorité à droite*. This system means that (if there are no road signs dictating otherwise) you give way to traffic coming from your right at junctions or crossroads. If drivers crash into you from your left you can tick them off.

On roundabouts, *priorité à droite* implies that you shoot straight on to the circuit, with cars already there giving way to you if you keep up your speed and don't look at them. If hit, you are one up. But now you have joined the dance you have to stop to let other cars join in from the approach roads (which are of course on your right, since this is a French, or anti-clockwise, roundabout). This continues until the thing is full of motionless cars, while more and more drivers on the approach roads try to hoot their way into the fuming mass.

To avoid such snarl-ups, over the past few years the authorities have erected GIVE WAY signs on the approach roads at the busier roundabouts. This produces an un-French *priorité à gauche* situation, which, reluctantly sacrificing principles to pragmatism, the authorities are now about to generalize to all roundabouts. British roundabout tactics, *mutilis mundaui, ceteris paribus*, not to say *timeo Danaos*, will prevail from May 1.

One may confidently predict a certain amount of confusion for a year or two, with roundabouts clogged with drivers calling "après vous" to one another, or other remarks, to be elucidated by study of the *Harvard Slang Dictionary*, English-French and French-English.

In situations of conflict there is a lot to be said for having the steering-wheel on the right, or British, or wrong, side when driving on the right, or wrong, side of the road, as one has to do on the continent unless one is driving a railway train. These go on the left, even in France, having been invented when people still remembered that the left

penalty than dismissal. Talk of a Freedom of Information Act is naive; it could neither abolish a secret classification nor determine what ministers considered ought to come under this heading.

Equally, the right and duty of a newspaper to publish as much as it can (which nothing written here contradicts) does not imply a right of leakage by civil servants for political ends. Miss Tisdall does not, however, stand alone. Anti-Government factions within the Civil Service are a current phenomenon, and for practical purposes that means anti-Conservative government; certainly the Wilson government never experienced anything so persistent.

Of course, the Civil Service has always tried to exert its departmental positions. But these have been largely "neutral" parties in party political terms. Now they are increasingly political. The Department of Education is, for instance, highly politicized in its attachment to educational attitudes, closely associated with the left.

If what one might call the Tisdall ethic were to spread unchecked, the very nature of the Civil Service would be brought into question. Until it was thrown open to competitive examination in 1870 it was recruited by ministerial patronage, as it is in the US today. The great merit of the present system is that a government of any party is given dispassionate and analytical warning of the consequences of its actions, advice and ultimately loyal obedience to political decisions. But if decisions are to be harassed and undermined by the private decisions of senior groups with their own policies, or of junior officials indulging their prejudices, we must be better off if it returns to the spoils system. If civil servants are to behave in a political way (and are to be excused for so behaving) they had better be politicized outright so that ministers get the kind of officials who will be loyal to the decisions taken by the elected government.

None of this implies that civil servants should not be more open in discussing policy and possible policy with the media, though they are more open than many choose to think. Nor does it imply that ministers should not, if they choose "leak" their personal positions in arguments, as the Wets and the Drys did in the last parliament. It is simply a matter of ensuring that politicians responsible to Parliament should not be frustrated by non-elected people who are supposed to serve them.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, the shadow Home Secretary, is indignant on Miss Tisdall's behalf. He sees no principle involved, but merely the Government's wish for a "show trial, and therefore a political trial." There is one simple question Mr. Kaufman should answer. Would he be content, in power, for documents which he thought should be marked secret, to be released to (say) the *Daily Mail* just because an official of Tory inclinations thought this classification immaterial?

side is the right side to mount a horse, from if one is wearing one's sword, unless one is left-handed or can do a six-foot standing jump.)

As for *après vous*: when French headlights flash, they mean something else - either "Get out of my way" or "I assume that you, like me, are some sort of delinquent; so watch out, the cops are round the corner." The French police are kindly folk, who tend to stand around beaming while the peasantry destroy Spanish peaches, British lamb, Italian wine and Dutch pork.

One can usually do x miles per hour when it is x kilometers per hour if one does not irritate following drivers when there is no room for them to overtake. But when four or five policemen get into a temper for some reason or other, they oil their revolvers and sub-machineguns, park at the roadside and take the matter up by the rule-book, unsparing of time, ammunition and forms in triplicate. Proceed with caution or nip down the next road on the right.

Priorité à droite is jealously exercised wherever possible, if only because it is getting whittled away, what with roundabouts and *routes à grande circulation* - the red ones on the Michelin map, signalled by that mysterious big yellow diamond road sign. When you have seen one of these you can belt along and lord it over drivers trying to get in on your right, rejoicing in the fine open roads - there being three times as much road per car as in Britain, which is why, with the same number of accidents as the British, twice as many get killed. It's the momentum that does it. Don't forget that the big yellow diamond with the black bar sinister means that the road has lost its status and you must revert to *priorité à droite*, unless of course there's a roundabout, where it will be *priorité à gauche* if the authorities don't change their minds.

At least, I think it's a bar sinister, bearing in mind that in heraldry sinister, or left, means right, and dexter, or right, means left, from the point of view of the spectator as distinct from that of the old chap holding the shield (who of course can't see it anyway, and life does get complicated doesn't it, but thank heavens one can still rent a houseboat and glide peacefully down France's tree-lined canals or, better, tie up at the side near a good restaurant and stay put).

(Either side.)
(I think.)



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STILL THE LONG HAUL

The failure of the European Community's foreign ministers to reach an agreement this week on the future of the European budget masks a significant movement in the direction of success. Though the meeting broke down over precise figures, agreement was reached on the principle of a long-term system for calculating and reducing Britain's contribution to the EEC budget in place of the annual haggle which has soured relationships inside the Community in recent years. That is the solution Britain must have before it agrees to the increase in the Community's own resources without which the EEC cannot function properly; that is the solution which, if it is not tempting fate to say so, now seems to be in reach.

What caused the breakdown was disagreement over the level of British contributions at the starting point of the new system. At issue was the difference between the reduction in the British contribution sought by Mrs Thatcher and the reduction offered by the other member states - a gap of no more than £180 million. That is not a figure large enough, on the face of it, to be a stumbling block, but it is none the less an important one for both sides. For the figure determined at the beginning of the system will also fix the level of our contributions in the years to come.

Since the system will have to be applied to a bigger and bigger

budget over the next few years, the starting point matters to Britain because it will determine the level of our contributions, which are bound to increase anyway. Likewise, because of the dynamic effects of the system, its cost to the other member states (who will between them make up for whatever Britain does not pay) will be increasingly expensive. But Britain's strongest argument is that every step we take to meet the other nine has to be paid for exclusively by Britain, whereas every step the others take to meet us is shared between nine.

It was quite clear at Brussels that there would be no movement unless Britain alone made it. And since that is unacceptable to the British Government the meeting reached no conclusion. But assuming that point has now been taken, there is now presumably some prospect of compromise which, for practical purposes, may mean something like splitting the difference. What is most important at this stage are not the figures which the system is projected to produce (they are bound to be speculative) but the prospect of a firm system which, however reluctantly, the other nine now seem prepared to write into the Treaty of Rome as a permanent feature.

There are also signs of a new realism in thinking about the wasteful agricultural subsidies which are at the heart of the EEC's

budget difficulties. In addition to the specific arrangements for restraining over-production of particular commodities, it now seems to be generally accepted that these would be of little use in the long run unless they were under-pinned by some system of cash limits. There is little apparent inclination to quarrel with the text of a provisional agreement (not yet promulgated) by the agriculture ministers, on a commitment by the Community to ensure that agricultural spending rises less fast than the Community's "own resources" from members' contributions. How that is to be done, however, remains to be settled.

It will not be done easily. There will still be much pleading of special cases. The Irish will, for instance, argue to be allowed to expand milk production rather than reduce it. But they are unlikely to try to get their way by vetoing a budget settlement since the increase in "own resources" this would bring is very much in Ireland's interest. More broadly, the absurdity of a level of subsidy which over Europe as a whole, piles up surpluses that nobody wants (while the Americans do the same) is increasingly acknowledged. This is one sign of the new sanity which is reason enough for Mrs Thatcher's decision not to upset the other nine at this stage by withholding contributions to offset our blocked rebate for this year. It is still the long haul that matters.

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF LAFAYETTE

President Mitterrand returns to Paris this morning after a week-long visit to the United States marked by a degree of warmth in Franco-American relations almost unthinkable at any previous moment of the history of the Fifth Republic. Britain, indeed, might almost feel jealous on hearing Mr George Shultz say, as he did last week, that "France is a very staunch friend - we don't have a better one", or on hearing Mitterrand remind President Reagan of Franco-American brotherhood in arms "from Yorktown to Beirut". What price the special relationship now?

Such feelings of jealousy would be out of place, however. Britain has long got over resenting defeat at Yorktown - which Burke and Fox, after all, regarded as a victory for English liberties against overweening royal power, and British soldiers were in Beirut too, as part of the same force, even if they were lucky enough not to "mingle their blood" (as Mitterrand put it) with that of their French and American brothers. French, British and Americans have fought side by side in two world wars, and now are three of the sixteen members of the Atlantic Alliance. Within that defensive alliance, as Mitterrand reminded his hosts, "France pursues her own defence policy", and "between free countries an alliance presupposes... acceptance of different points of view". French insistence on that in the past has frequently irritated her allies, and sometimes led them

to doubt the depth of her commitment to the alliance. If such doubts are now laid to rest on both sides of the Atlantic, Britain has as much cause to rejoice as the United States.

It is indeed a paradox that they have been laid to rest, even in the breast of an ultra-conservative and passionately anti-communist administration in Washington, by a Socialist French president who has brought Communists back into the French government after a thirty-four year absence; a president, moreover, who does not hide his disagreement with Washington either on the management of the world economy or on so sensitive a subject as the crisis in Central America.

It is a paradox, but not a mystery. Mitterrand is the apple of Mr Reagan's eye because of the firm and consistent line he has taken on the danger to Europe represented by the installation of Soviet SS-20 missiles in addition to the long-standing superiority of Soviet conventional forces. Mitterrand denounced this before and after coming to power, and has firmly supported American efforts to redress the balance, in accordance with the Nato decision of 1979, by installing cruise and Pershing missiles on European soil. The clarity with which he situates himself in the Western camp, as an adversary of Moscow, is contrasted favourably in Washington with the ambiguities of his predecessors, especially of his immediate predecessor whose ill-timed

meeting with Mr Brezhnev in Warsaw, five months after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, was seen as badly undermining Western solidarity.

Similarly, the firmness and virtual unanimity of France, in backing the "Euromissile" deployment and accepting the need for a nuclear defence against the Soviet menace, is contrasted favourably with the wobbles of public opinion in other European countries, including West Germany and Britain.

The willingness of France to take action in defence of Western interests both in Africa and in the Middle East, rather than acting as an arm-chair critic or back-seat driver of American policy in those areas as other European powers are too often tempted to do, is also much appreciated.

All this Mitterrand is able to do, partly because de Gaulle had already asserted France's independence in foreign and defence policies, at a time when the West was strong enough to afford it, in such a way that it is no longer really doubted either inside or outside France; and partly because, as the leader of the left, with the Communists included - one might almost say imprisoned - in his government, Mitterrand is not vulnerable to the accusation of having invented the Soviet menace as an excuse to defend the social order at home. The Alliance is in fact strengthened, not weakened, by the diversity of freely chosen systems and policies it can contain.

REPRIEVE ON CLYDESIDE

The Scott Lithgow shipyard on Clydeside has a future this morning. So too does the great majority of the yard's 2,900 strong workforce. Neither of these statements could have been made with any confidence before yesterday, when the successful conclusion of the private sector takeover by Trafalgar House finally lifted the threat of closure which has been hanging over the yard - and the local Greenock community - for at least six months. Any judgement on the takeover must start from this simple and uncontested fact. This is not to say that the future of the yard is now cast in iron: its survival and employment prospects beyond next year will depend on how successful the new management is in winning new orders, and on how successfully the workforce adapt to their new working conditions. That it has been reprieved at all however is a considerable triumph, and should be widely welcomed.

Both British Shipbuilders and the Department of Industry have been convinced for several months that a change of ownership offered Scott Lithgow the only chance of a viable future. The corporation's original attempt, four years ago, to safeguard the yard's future by establishing the yard as the centrepiece of a new offshore construction division geared to the needs of the North Sea oil industry was imaginative but has

proved ill-fated. The yard's record since then has been lamentable, with losses of £130m in four years compounded by a series of cost and time overruns on contracts and too many pointless and unnecessary labour disputes.

The cancellation of Britoil's rig before Christmas was only the culmination of a sorry process which had found both public sector management and work force wanting, even if the precise allocation of blame between the two remains a matter of dispute.

In these circumstances the Government has been right to cry enough: some might even say it should have acted sooner. From now on losses incurred by the yard will be borne by the new owners, not by the taxpayer. So too will the rewards. The prospect of the yard returning to profitability can only be enhanced by the Trafalgar House consortium's greater experience in the offshore rig and module construction business. It is of course only through profit that there can be any chance of guaranteeing jobs at the yard beyond the short-term.

Satisfaction at the successful transfer of Scott Lithgow to the private sector must be tempered however by some concern at the manner in which the negotiations have been conducted. With its appalling record, Scott Lithgow was never going to be the most appealing of assets in

the Government's privatisation window. The Department of Industry and Mr Graham Day, the corporation's chairman, will argue that they have done well to find a bidder at all. Neither has, however, entirely dispelled the impression that, in their haste to hand the yard to Trafalgar House, they neglected to explore fully the potential for attracting rival bids. The uneasy joining of forces between Trafalgar House and Howard Doris at the eleventh hour supports this impression. It is the Government's duty, even with basket cases, to strike the best bargain for the taxpayer.

The cost to the taxpayer of completing the sale will also need to be carefully examined once the full financial details of the deal become clear. The Prime Minister's determination to "wipe the slate clean" for any potential private sector bidder was certainly realistic. Whether the direct net cost of the sale - £71m according to the Department of Industry - was too generous an inducement would make a good topic for the Public Accounts Committee, and doubtless it will become one. The Government argues that this is no more than the cost which the taxpayer would have incurred if the yard had closed, as was the alternative. It takes little away from yesterday's welcome deal to say that this claim must be carefully scrutinised.

Banning weapons in space

From Mr Julian Critchley, MP for Aldershot (Conservative)

Sir, In reviewing the encouraging history of the Atlantic Alliance during the last thirty-five years, the Prime Minister, in her article, "Building on the new realism" (March 26), picks out three or four important changes in the contemporary scene to which the Alliance must adapt itself successfully. One of them, to which much technical, but too little political attention has been given, is "the implication of weapons in space".

I believe it to be a matter of the first urgency to restrain, if it is not too late entirely to prevent, the present systematic preparations on both sides for a space war.

The Outer Space Treaty of 1967 does, indeed, prohibit the placing in orbit round the earth of weapons of mass destruction, but there is, I believe, nothing to prevent battles between satellites. More than half of those launched by the Soviet Union are military satellites, and the creation of the United States Space Command is clearly motivated by the development of "active space systems".

I should like to see an initiative undertaken by the Western European Powers to promote an agreement to ban the testing and deployment of space-based weapons systems. A series of negotiations did in fact take place between the USA and the USSR from June, 1978, to August, 1979, on the feasibility of banning anti-satellite systems. They were interrupted by the Afghanistan crisis.

My plea is that the Europeans should urgently request that they be resumed. It would be good to see HM Government taking the lead in this matter.

Yours etc,
JULIAN CRITCHLEY,
House of Commons.

Criminals on juries

From Lord Harris of Greenwich

Sir, All too often a British jury includes people who have been convicted of serious criminal offences. On occasions, as I pointed out in an article in *The Times*, some have committed a dozen or more offences, which have attracted severe penalties short of immediate imprisonment.

I do not believe that such people can evaluate prosecution evidence in a spirit of fairness and impartiality; they are, for the most understandable reasons, prejudiced against the police.

In these circumstances I was disappointed to see that the Juries (Disqualification) Bill, which is designed to end this abuse, was blocked, on third reading in the House of Commons on March 23 by a handful of Labour MPs.

Last session my colleague, Lord Wigoder, introduced a measure with similar objectives, which was carried through the House of Lords but did not succeed in being passed through the House of Commons.

Unless the Bill reaches the statute book sophisticated criminals will continue to sit on British juries. The Government must do its utmost to ensure that the Bill is not allowed to die.

Yours etc,
HARRIS OF GREENWICH,
House of Lords.

Levels of education

From Dr P. C. Rice-Evans

Sir, Lord Flowers (March 8) is to be commended for supporting a wider sixth form curriculum, but we must regret that the country is not planning efficaciously to compete in a world increasingly determined by intellect.

A more invigorating proposal would be to require all university candidates to offer five A level subjects (three in their present standard), three in their mainstream and two to broaden their horizons. Thus a potential scientist might take, say, Latin and economics in addition to three sciences, etc.

Such a programme would require three years in the sixth form, with O levels taken at 15+, as now often happens in the independent sector (e.g., at Westminster School). To achieve this an accelerated and more demanding pace would be required throughout a pupil's school career, but especially in the primary schools, which now compare so unfavourably with preparatory schools.

This approach would promote Sir Keith Joseph's ambition to raise the calibre of our young people by a quantum increment - and enable them to prosper.

Yours faithfully,
PETER RICE-EVANS,
Bedford College,
Physics Department,
Regents Park, NW1.

Surface ships at risk

From Air Vice-Marshal S. W. B. Menaul

Sir, The present controversy surrounding the vulnerability of surface ships stems from a statement in a study published by the British Atlantic Committee, *Diminishing the Nuclear Threat: Nato's Defence and New Technology*, that the Falklands war "demonstrated the vulnerability of surface ships". It did nothing of the kind.

What the Falklands war demonstrated was that surface ships inadequately equipped with defensive weapons systems will be vulnerable to attack even by a third-rate country using obsolescent aircraft armed with World War II free-fall iron bombs, some of which failed to explode. The deficiencies in the defensive armament of our ships are now being rectified.

In his letter of March 21, attacking Vice-Admiral Sir Louis Le Bailly, Mr Hugh Hanning repeats the contention that surface ships are becoming increasingly vulnerable to attack from "precision guided missiles, long-range bombers, air-

Faulty reckoning on CAP milk

From Mr G. H. Peters and Mr Stephen Ludlow

Sir, It is difficult to believe that the EEC - wedded, it was supposed, to belief in the virtues of unrestricted internal trade - is about to introduce amendments to the CAP (common agricultural policy) milk regime which could see production quotas being placed on each and every dairy farmer in 10 Community countries.

Though dairy support is a significant element in the Community's financial crisis and action is needed, the proposal to introduce levies on milk deliveries in excess of a basic global quota, fixed for the UK for 1984-85 at 15.7 million tonnes, is a step into a bureaucratic quagmire which it would be wise to avoid.

A rough forecast of the result of this scheme, using a supply elasticity of 0.55, suggests that net returns will fall by about 5.5 per cent and production by 3 per cent to 16.7 million tonnes. The implication is that exactly the same result could have been achieved by a straightforward cut in the administrative clamp down to be imposed on the industry.

Although a number of reasons appear to favour the quota/superlevy mechanisms, none of them bears examination:

1. A straightforward price cut might stimulate production to counter the income effects of falling prices. By contrast a quota "caps" the system (an unfortunate pun), indicating to the farmer that over-production will carry a personal penalty. This seems plausible, except that there is not a shred of evidence to support the "perverse reaction" assumption, except in the very short term. Indeed if perverse reactions were present

the way out of a milk surplus would be to increase prices.

2. There is a strong, almost theological belief that farmers are blame-worthy for surpluses. This was a strong motivation for the introduction of co-responsibility levies and has been carried over into the quota proposals. This argument is weak. Prices are fixed by the Community and farmers react to them as an appropriate set of determining signals. There is no escaping the plain fact that surpluses are the result of infirmity of purpose among Community ministers.
3. There is a belief that co-responsibility and superlevies will have a budgetary effect not only as a result of lower production leading to less intervention purchase but also by adding to budgetary receipts. Levies are a tax on output. However, the effects of the system do not extend to consumers, whereas a straightforward reduction in prices would affect both consumer prices and increase demand.

If the contemplated package is persisted with there is a danger that the Community will enter a *dirigiste* phase in which policies will militate against sensible spatial resource allocation in Europe and lead to a suspicion that comparative advantage is to be ignored in favour of expediency. In such circumstances the Irish reaction was predictable and well founded; other climatically favoured milk producing areas in Britain face exactly similar problems.

Yours faithfully,
G. H. PETERS, Director,
STEPHEN LUDLOW,
University of Oxford,
Institute of Agricultural Economics,
Dartington House,
Little Clarendon Street, Oxford.

Oppression in Turkey

From Professor Isaac Marks and others

Sir, We wish to draw the attention of your readers to the oppressive measures taken by the Turkish Government in Turkish universities, our colleagues, Professor M. Ozek of the Department of Psychiatry at Istanbul University, was dismissed from his post during the Turkish Peace Association trial and is now serving an 8-year term in prison.

His plight reflects a broader attack on academic freedom. A Higher Education Council has been formed which has total authoritarian control over the universities; the chairman of this body was appointed by the military authorities. This system has enabled the administrators arbitrarily to expel over 500 academics from the universities in the past two years for political reasons. Moreover, the military authorities still have the right to purge academics out of the universities at their own discretion.

In spite of the claims of a return

to democracy after the general elections in November, 1983, the Turkish Government is continuing its anti-democratic actions towards Turkish intellectuals and academics. The fact that the 23 executive members of the Turkish Peace Association, amongst whom are eminent academics, lawyers, writers and artists, have been sentenced to five to eight years of imprisonment and are still kept in prison under appalling conditions is but one indicator of the present political climate in Turkey.

This extreme attack on academic freedom and human rights by a fellow member of Nato, which is said to be defending the free world, should be strongly condemned.

Yours sincerely,
ISAAC MARKS,
R. S. BLUGLASS,
SYDNEY BRANDON,
GRIFFITH EDWARDS,
M. G. GELDER,
J. H. HENSON,
GERALD RUSSELL,
c/o Institute of Psychiatry,
Den Crespigny Park,
Denmark Hill, SE5.

Action on engineering

From Professor Michael J. French

Sir, It is good to see in your pages today (March 20) "Where have all the British engineers gone?" that Mr Tebbit is alive to the need for more engineers, and Mr Heath's warning in the same issue that microchips are only part of the story is also timely. But is it going to be any different this time - will anything be done?

To take engineering design alone, we have had the Fielden report (1963), the Moulton report (1976), the Corfield report (1979), the Lickley report (1983) but what action has there been? Nothing but cuts in university and polytechnic funding, in the former case falling particularly hard on the technological ones.

In another area, the very successful advanced course in production methods and management, started by Cambridge University Engineering Department in 1966, which is highly oversubscribed by very able graduates, has had to limp along from one financial expedient to another and has recently been reduced in scale for lack of funds.

The economic health of this country depends on new products of our own and plenty of bright engineers are essential to design and produce them. In 1838 Disraeli said: "The English manufacturers unfortunately fancied that all they needed to do was to produce a cheap article and the consequence was, that their cheap article was refused, while an article of a better kind, and displaying more ingenuity in the manufacture, the produce of other countries, was preferred."

It is time we took note of Disraeli's warning and paid for a little more such ingenuity.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL FRENCH,
University of Lancaster,
Department of Engineering,
Bailrigg, Lancaster.

Information inflation

From Mr Lawrence P. Shurman

Sir, The move towards "freedom of information" has much support, but has sufficient attention been given to the cost charged by HMSO for such information as is already available?

The price of the recent White Paper, *An Independent Prosecution Service for England and Wales* (Cmd 9074, published October, 1983), is £3.60 for 32 pages. This compares with 20p which you charge for about the same number of larger pages.

Medical manpower

From Dr W. J. Boyce and Dr G. H. Fowler

Sir, Nicholas Timmins (feature, March 7) quite correctly notes that, while family-practitioner list sizes have fallen from 2,400 to 2,100 in the last decade, their level of pay has remained the same.

Looking ahead, the reduction of the size to 1,700 proposed by the British Medical Association, he asserts that "any accountant would argue that the NHS would be getting worse value for money - more GPs being paid the same to do less". Such an assertion would be correct, but the accountant would be wrong.

If general practitioners continue to run clinics that simply deal with illness as and when it occurs, it follows that fewer patients would mean less work. But general medical practice is changing and all the evidence indicates that GPs are becoming interested in the silent majority of their practice list who seldom, if ever, visit the surgery.

The Royal College of General Practitioners has taken a strong lead in advocating a preventive approach and more and more doctors are experimenting with such services as high blood-pressure clinics, smoking-cessation classes and routine surveillance of the elderly.

Personal conviction in Tisdall case

From Lord Hunt

Sir, In the space of press and public reaction to the imposition of a six months' prison sentence on Miss Sarah Tisdall by an Old Bailey court one point of relevance has not yet been made.

It must be presumed that any prison sentence, particularly one of such severity, for a first offence was intended as a deterrent, not only to the offender but to other civil servants who might be disposed, on grounds of principle or conscience, to - in the words of Mr Justice Cantley - "flout their obligations".

My own belief in regard to exemplary sentencing, based on experience while on the Parole Board, with the probation service and the parliamentary all-party penitentiary affairs group, is that it is unlikely to have any generally deterrent effect.

Moreover, when an offender has acted upon a deeply held belief (in this instance, in regard to the right to be informed of the arrival of cruise missiles) exemplary punishment is likely to strengthen his personal beliefs and his resolve to adhere to them.

More harm than good may well have been done by this sentence.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HUNT,
Highway Cottage,
Henley-on-Thames
(Oxfordshire),
March 27.

From Mr Philip Circus

Sir, The public service is based on the notion that those who choose to be part of it will loyally serve the elected government of the day, whatever the political complexion.

Miss Tisdall may not have endangered national security. However, by deliberately putting private conscience before public duty, she has put at risk public confidence in the loyalty and impartiality of the service.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP CIRCUS,
1 Wensleydale Gardens,
Hampton,
Middlesex,
March 27.

From Sir Thomas Padmore

Sir, Would there be any serious impediment to the flow of useful information if those newspapers which aspire to hold the respect of their readers were, in pursuit of that respect, to declare that they would neither print nor make other use of documents which they believed to have been stolen?

Yours faithfully,
T. PADMORE,
39 Cholmeley Crescent,
Highgate, N6,
March 27.

To take what may be a more pertinent example, *The Mental Health Review Tribunal Rules*, 1960 (15 pages) when reprinted in 1970 cost 10p. *The Mental Health Review Tribunal Rules*, 1983 (22 pages) when reprinted in 1983 cost £2.70.

Is unfair advantage being taken of a monopoly position? Whatever the explanation, surely the expense of obtaining official information is too high.

Yours faithfully,
L. P. SHURMAN,
107-115 Long Acre, WC2,
March 27.

Admittedly the NHS would not be able to guarantee that GPs used their new-found extra time in this way. But this should hardly be an issue considering the virtual absence of control at present, despite which the majority of GPs do a good day's work.

We have a surplus of young doctors being produced. There are changes afoot in medical practice. It would be a great pity if blinkered financial thinking, succeeded in reversing the policy of a reduction in list size, thereby perpetuating some of the worst aspects of medical practice and contributing to medical unemployment.

Hopefully the politicians at the DHSS will make no such mistake.

Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN BOYCE,
GEOFFREY FOWLER,
Oxford Regional Health Authority,
Old Road,
Headington,
Oxford,
March 14.

Rodent remedies

From the President of the British Pest Control Association

Sir, Mr Essinger's advocacy of ultrasonic devices (March 20) strikes a topical note in this 70th anniversary year of the Pied Piper of Hamelin. Unfortunately, all the research so far made available to this association is, to say the least, inconclusive.

The devices are claimed to repel rats rather than kill them, which would still not solve the real problem. I shall keep an open mind and a closed wallet until I see Mr Essinger driving London's rats into the Thames.

Yours faithfully,
PETER BATEMAN, President,
British Pest Control Association,
Alcibi House,
93 Albert Embankment, SE1,
March 23.

From Mr Colin Murison Small

Sir, Mr James Essinger (March 20), referring to ultrasonic pest-repellent devices, tells us that "it has been known for ages that televisions, which under certain circumstances emit ultrasonic sound, often get rid of rats, both super and economy-sized".

How is he so sure it isn't just the programmes?

Yours faithfully,
COLIN MURISON SMALL,
21 Burghage Road, SE24,
March 23.

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Fears and forebodings for today's Finance Bill

The 1984 Finance Bill, all 222 clauses, and a solid sheaf of Inland Revenue notices, will land with an expectant thud on desks today. By common consent, Mr Nigel Lawson's first Budget is the richest in scope and detail for years. Tory backbenchers are born again, but it will be interesting to see how much of their euphoria survives the complex grift of committee scrutiny - some of the main tax changes are at best still half-formed and likely to be the subject of strong pressures for amendments - while the call to arms of the builders' and fish and chip anti-VAT lobbies have not gone unheeded.

While the Inland Revenue's tax haven proposals are likely to generate most heat, albeit in the rarefied atmosphere of multinational business, the fiercest explosion could be in the life assurance industry. Already deprived of life assurance premium relief, the industry is sweating in fear of worse to come. Mr Lawson's second reason for taking away the relief was that it had "spawned a multiplicity of well-advised tax management schemes, and no less than 50 pages of legislation attempting to deal with its abuse." In fact, ending the premium relief alone would leave these offending 50 pages almost untouched. They would however, become redundant at a stroke if the concept of the "qualifying policy" were scrapped.

Provided a policy meets various criteria (they include minimum life of 10 years and a minimum level of life cover) the benefits it provides on maturity are untaxed. If there are no more qualifying policies there would be no more untaxed benefits and no more (well hardly any) skillfully managed abuses. In brave pursuit of fiscal neutrality, life funds, after further tinkering, could then be treated in broadly the same way as unit trust funds; no tax concession on money put in; untaxed benefits accumulating in the fund, and potential capital gains tax treatment when the policyholder takes the benefits onto himself at the maturity or surrender of his policy.

The second apprehension in the life assurance industry, one on which vehement representations are or are about to be made to the Treasury, centres on its special corporation tax rate of 37½ per cent. The crucial point about this rate is that it is considered to be pegged; it is the maximum rate life companies believe they are likely to be asked to pay - ever. The Chancellor's fundamental changes in corporation tax have given rise to fear that 37½ per cent may no longer be for eternity. Any change would entirely screw up every actuarial calculation and thus almost every life policy. Any increase in the rate at any time in the future might simply bankrupt the life insurance industry.

There will, of course, always be ways and means of dealing with changes in taxation, as we saw yesterday. When the Accounting Standards Committee simply opened the door for companies, in particular the clearing banks, to do as they will in their treatment of the writeback of deferred taxation provisions. The committee's original plan was to stick by its present standard, SSAP 15, which would have meant unwieldy "extraordinary items", ie debits, of up to £1.5 billion for the banks. The *Laissez faire* attitude which the committee has been persuaded to adopt by two of the big eight firms still recognises SSAP 15 (facing one way) but points out that for some companies a departure from the standard will be necessary for the accounts to show a true and fair view (facing the other way).

Eagle takes wing under BATs

If there is life after the Budget for life insurers it is demonstrated by Eagle Star Holdings, which made its first public statement yesterday under the mighty umbrella of BAT Industries. Despite a burst of storm damage in the closing weeks of last year, Eagle has

matched its 1983 profits forecast of £90m made during the prolonged bid battle with Allianz of West Germany.

Mr Edward Symons, the senior finance director of BAT, was able to look on his new charge with the sanguine air of one who has asked tough questions and received soothing answers. He points out that 80 per cent of Eagle Star's life business is connected with pensions and so protected from the full rigour of Mr Lawson's proposals (so far). And in any case, he has been assured, Eagle Star's executives have faced the loss of tax relief on insurance policies marketed in other countries and survived unscathed.

The more difficult problem for BAT's new insurance subsidiary is the one shared by virtually all the composites: large and unpalatable underwriting losses on non-life business. Eagle Star managed to trim this loss from £63.7m to £60.3m, after transfers from reserves. Premiums on household risks are still insufficient, the company says.

In contrast the annual bulletin from BAT, also published yesterday, gives the impression that there is hardly a cloud in the sky. Pretax profits from 1983 rose by 14 per cent to £979m without anything from Eagle Star. Although tobacco profits fell by £30m to £542m, the company added that there was a marked improvement in the second half. Retailing was outstanding, with International Stores moving into "substantial" profit.

All of this is very different from the signals coming from BAT only a few years ago. Mr Patrick Sheehy is clearly now into his stride as chairman, as evidenced by his claim that dividend increases have exceeded the rate of inflation by more than 5 per cent a year since 1976, and will continue to grow in real terms. The final this time is 4.875p, making a total up from 6.875p to 8.25p.

The key to BAT's success remains its geographical diversity, an important factor in enabling the group to weather the downturn in cigarette consumption in Britain and other developing countries. What has made the big difference is that the diversifications, so long plagued with troubles, are now being run tightly.

In that context, it will be instructive to see how BAT handles Eagle Star, and indeed how it approaches its whole move into financial services. The official line is that BAT is still studying its new baby and is not rushing off to buy a stockbroker or anything dramatic. But sidelong glances are being cast at the banking sector. These days, that is very much a rich man's privilege. Significantly, Mr Symons was able to claim that the Budget changes in corporation tax could benefit the present group to the tune of several millions.

Kleinwort looks to US securities

Merchant bank Kleinwort Benson is involved in talks with a New York house that could mean the bank following Mercantile Credit, Exco International and Jacob Rothschild deep into the American financial securities markets.

Kleinwort's chairman, Mr Michael Hawkes, told *The Times* yesterday "I can not discuss it at the moment."

Kleinwort is averse to paying what one bank director called the "frightfully high" prices expected by London's brokers and jobbers for a price of their business. It has also been looking to what it can achieve internationally, and as the United States represents 30 per cent of the world's securities business and Japan a not insignificant 25 per cent, they are the obvious places to be. The boom on Wall Street has paid handsome dividends for those British companies that acquired.

If rumour is right, establishing a strong New York presence would be an attractive way of making up for lost opportunities. The current thinking is a financial group acquiring a broker, injecting the capital to finance dual capacity trading and then moving into New York as an international dealer.

Whitehall gives go-ahead for £20m Scott Lithgow sale

By Anthony Bevis and Ronald Faux

The Government yesterday approved the sale of Scott Lithgow to Mr Nigel Brookes' Trafalgar House group for a total of £20m. The deal will safeguard the yard's immediate future at a net cost to the taxpayer of £71m, which will have to be written off by British Shipbuilders, the yard's previous owners.

Mr Norman Lamont, the Minister of State for Industry, told Parliament yesterday that Scott Lithgow will now complete the Britoil rig contract which was cancelled on the crisis over its future. The £88m contract will be completed by the new owners in partnership with Howard Doris, the Anglo-French company, which has acquired 25 per cent of the Scott Lithgow capital.

Lamont said: "The costs of this deal for British Shipbuilders are broadly the same as those which would have arisen if the Britoil contract had been lost and the yard closed."



George Younger: my faith has been justified

Mr Lamont admitted that British Shipbuilders' external financing limit would have to be raised from £158m to £268m this year because of the £88m attributable to Scott Lithgow and an additional £22m to take account of "the continued recession in merchant shipbuilding."

There was confusion last night over the exact details of what appears to be a complex

deal. Mr Lamont told MPs that Trafalgar House would be paying £12m, but the Scottish Office later put out a statement saying that Trafalgar would pay a total of £20m, consisting of £12m for the share capital and a further £8m for land, buildings and equipment. There will be an immediate payment of £13m with the balance over three years at a commercial rate of interest.

Mr George Younger, the Scottish Secretary spoke last night of the "Dark days of last December when the Britoil contract was cancelled" and added "I am glad that my faith has been justified."

It is understood that Mr Younger has pressed the Ministry of Defence for submarine work for Scott Lithgow and development aid will be available to help Trafalgar House invest in computer-aided design, retraining and building. Trafalgar House expects to invest £20m over the next five years to improve facilities. If the company establishes that

there is surplus land, it will cooperate with the Scottish Development Agency and the Scottish Office to discover other economic uses to benefit Inverclyde.

The yard which has lost £95m in the last three years, has been taken over with a clean slate and in expectation that under new management it can win orders in the next wave of offshore construction. The Britoil contract for the semi-submersible rig Alliance as been restated for delivery by March 1986.

The existing workforce, now reduced to about 2,900 men, has also been taken over, but the new owners gave a warning yesterday that some further redundancies were likely. "The level of future employment will depend on success in obtaining new orders for the yard and the future performance of the managers and workforce retained in the business", Trafalgar House said.

Parliament, page 4
Leading article, page 14

H Samuel may face bid fight

By Jeremy Warner

A consortium of companies and financial institutions may be put together to counter a £29m agreed bid that H. Samuel has made for its rival high street jeweller, James Walker Goldsmith and Silversmiths.

Cecil Gee, the men's wear retailer, said yesterday that a consortium bid which it would lead was possible. It is already sitting on an £800,000 profit on the 14.5 per cent of Walker's voting shares it bought last January, but considers Samuel's offer far too low and lacks the financial muscle to mount a full takeover bid on its own.

Mr Cyril Spencer, the man widely credited with the revival of Burton Group where he was once chief executive and also a leading light in the ultimately fruitless consortium bid for the UDS stores group, has been recruited to the Cecil Gee board as a non-executive director.

He believes the group's Gee 2 leisure wear chain - now only 11 shops - has the potential to go national. Cecil Gee's chairman, Mr Michael Gee, said a takeover of Walker with its 110 outlets could accomplish what would otherwise take two to three years of finding additional sites for Gee 2 expansion.

Lord Rayne's London Merchant Securities has 5 per cent of Walker's voting shares and 7 per cent of its non-voters, and may be prepared to back the consortium.

Cecil Gee made pretax profits of £1.1m last year against £867,000 the year before. Its three shops in the United States shipped in £200,000. The company went public last June, and a 2.1p final dividend is to be paid.



Sir Graham "Bob" Wilkins (above) is to retire as chairman and chief executive of the Becham Group after the annual meeting in July. He will be succeeded by Mr Ronald Halstead, chairman of Becham Products. Sir Graham, 60, is retiring two years early, but will become the company's president.

Higher inflation risk feared after Budget

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

The Government's fiscal stance for the coming year is considerably looser than planned last year, with risks for higher inflation and interest rates, according to two specialist advisers to the all-party Treasury Select Committee of MPs, which took evidence from the Chancellor yesterday on the Budget.

Dr Paul Neild, chief economist with Phillips & Drew, the stockbrokers, estimates that public borrowing in 1984-85 should be about £5.4 billion, which would be £1.8 billion less than the £7.2 billion target, to maintain the guidelines laid down last year by Sir Geoffrey Howe.

Dr Neild's sums take into account £400m of extra assets, the £1.2 billion one-off bonus from accelerated value-added tax payments on imports, and more rapid economic growth than expected.

A policy of stimulating the economy when output outperforms expectations carries risks for inflation, he says.

Dr Bill Robinson, of the London Business School, says Mr Lawson's tax changes may prove to be too stimulatory and make it difficult to meet monetary targets.

Information on how inflation has affected a company's results will be contained in a note to the accounts. Failure to provide the information will bring a qualified audit report.

The previous inflation accounting standard, SSAP 16, required a separate set of current cost accounts to be prepared, but it failed to find sufficient support either from companies or within the accounting profession itself.

The ASC also approved a draft accounting standard on goodwill.

Feature, page 18

ICI gloom denied

By William Kay, City Editor

ICI shares have fallen 20p this week to 612p as word filtered out that at stockbrokers' lunches the group's chairman, Mr John Harvey-Jones, had been expressing his personal fears that the world economic recovery was about to run out of steam.

Last night Mr Harvey-Jones said he was neither more nor less miserable than he had been a month ago, when he unveiled ICI's yearly figures.

He said: "I don't know how the stockbrokers got this gloomy impression. His 'hypothesis' that the turning point from recovery back to recession might be in the middle of this year differed little from ICI's official forecasts."

ICI shares have fallen 20p this week to 612p as word filtered out that at stockbrokers' lunches the group's chairman, Mr John Harvey-Jones, had been expressing his personal fears that the world economic recovery was about to run out of steam.

International business again made an important contribution to Group profits, with long-term profits, including life profits from the U.S.A., adding £15.5m before taxation. However, the general insurance results were badly affected by the difficult reinsurance market.

The importance of investment performance is increasingly recognized and demanded by the market for all our products, and this is reflected in the growing interest of our customers and the intermediaries in our investment approach.

Analysis of general insurance business results taking into account investment income earned on technical reserves.

Premium income 1983 1982 £m £m 113.4 100.9 (8.9) (13.8) (8.9) (13.8) (2.3) (4.2) (1.1) (1.1) 191.1 169.4 (24.6) (25.3) 1.1 (1.2)

United Kingdom 66.1 53.9 (12.3) (8.2) (4.2) (1.1) Victory 11.6 14.6 (3.4) (3.3) (1.4) (1.1) Rest of World 19.1 16.4 (2.6) (2.5) 1.1 (1.2)

Profit from operations before tax 46.8 40.0 Long-term business 5.2 6.2 Fund management 1.1 (1.2) Short-term business 2.3 1.2 Associated companies 0.6 0.5 Shareholders' other income

Profit before tax 56.0 46.7 Tax (12.2) (11.3) Minorities - (0.3)

Profit after tax 43.8 35.1 Employee profit sharing after tax (*incl. 1981 payment) (0.7) (1.1)* Profit attributable to shareholders 43.1 34.0 Shareholders' dividends (28.1) (23.3)

Retained profit 15.0 10.7 Earnings per share 28.46p 22.59p Shareholders' dividends 18.50p 15.50p

Legal & General

Accounting standard approved

By Ian Griffiths

After a long and heated debate, the Accounting Standards Committee has approved unanimously a statement of intent which proposes an inflation accounting standard for all public limited companies, except insurance companies.

About 2,500 companies will have to comply with the new standard which will take effect from January 1 1985 if it survives the crucial exposure draft period over the next few months.

Information on how inflation has affected a company's results will be contained in a note to the accounts. Failure to provide the information will bring a qualified audit report.

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The ASC also approved a draft accounting standard on goodwill.

Feature, page 18

Legal & General Reports Increased Profits

Unaudited results for 1983 of Legal & General Group Plc

Pre-tax profits in 1983 rose 20 per cent to a record figure of £56.0m. The main features of the year in the UK were the dramatic increase in life new business and the marked improvement in the general insurance underwriting results.

International business again made an important contribution to Group profits, with long-term profits, including life profits from the U.S.A., adding £15.5m before taxation. However, the general insurance results were badly affected by the difficult reinsurance market.

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Legal & General

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Pound loses 90 points

Sterling closed down 90 points against the dollar at \$1.470 yesterday but was firmer against other leading currencies on the back of Tuesday's good trade figures. Its trade-weighted value against a basket of currencies rose 0.2 to 80.5.

Against the mark, sterling added half a penny to DM 3.76 and was firmer against the yen and French franc.

The dollar was strong early in the day but failed to hold best levels, closing just over half a penny lower against the mark at DM 2.5982. The markets are expecting today's trade figures to show another large deficit in the order of \$9 billion and this could lead to some weakening in the currency.

Foreign exchanges, page 16

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 index: 1103.8 up 1.7 (day's high 1110.1, low 1101.9)
FT index: 875.2 up 0.2
FTSE: 83.19 down 0.02
Bergains: 29.146
Datastream USM Leaders
Index: 113.58 down 0.42
New York Dow Jones Industrial
Average (latest) 1181 up 7
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 10700.87 up 172.51
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index 1118.55 down 12.40
Amsterdam: 189.2 up 2.2
Sydney: AO Index 439.9 up 3.7
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1023.4 down 0.8
Brussels: General Index 1023.4 down 0.8
Paris: CAC Index 162.5 unchanged
Zurich: SKA General 305.90 up 0.5

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling \$1.470 down 90pts
Index 80.5 up 0.2
DM 3.76 up 0.0050
FrF 11.5850 up 0.0050
Yen 328.25 down 0.50
Dollar Index 126.8 up 0.7
DM 2.5982 down 0.0060
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.4660
Dollar DM 2.5985
INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.595439
SDR £0.735538

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 8½
Finance houses base rate 9½
Discount market loans week fixed 8½
3 month interbank 9 - 8½½
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10½-10¾
3 month DM 5½-5¾
3 month Fr 15½-14¾
US rates:
Bank prime rate 11.50
Fed funds 9½ Treasury long bond 9½-9¾

Babcock raises dividend

● Babcock International, the engineering and contracting group yesterday reported a rise in pretax profits for last year from £30.5m to £34.1m. The dividend payout is being raised for the first time in four years with a 43.3 final making 7.7p for the year against 7p last time. A one-for-10 scrip issue is also being recommended. Lord King, chairman, said that the group faces the future with confidence and is looking for growth.

Tempus, page 16

● Philips, the Dutch electronics group, yesterday confirmed that net profits had jumped by nearly 50 per cent for 1983 to 647m guilders (£152m). Turnover rose to 46.183m guilders from 42.991m guilders last time. The dividend is held at 1.8 guilders but shareholders are rewarded with a tax-free one-for-10 bonus issue.

Tempus, page 16

Tempus, page 16

Tempus, page 16

Tempus, page 16

NEWS IN BRIEF

Oddbins in takeover

Oddbins, the wines and spirits retailing chain, is to be expanded with the sale of a controlling interest to Seagram Distillers, the world's biggest wine and spirits group.

Seagram, Canadian-based but with substantial British interests, has paid £3.6m for a 75 per cent stake in Oddbins, which has 56 shops in Britain and three in Paris.

Mr Ivan Straker, the chairman of Seagram's British operation, said: "Retailing is a new and important venture for Seagram and Oddbins will form the base from which we are going to expand in Britain."

Oddbins, with a turnover of £31.5m will retain its independent identity. The chain will provide additional outlets for Seagram products which include the leading whisky brands Chivas Regal.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$387.75 pm \$385.75
close \$386-\$385.50 (£267.25-£267.75)
New York (latest): \$386.80
Krugers (per coin):
\$388-\$386.50 (£275-£276.50)
Sovereigns (new):
\$80.75-\$81.75 (£62.75-£63.50)
Excludes VAT

Tempus, page 16

Tempus, page 16

Tax changes cause company write-offs

The Budget decision to reduce capital allowances on investment gradually to nil beyond 1986, yesterday prompted three companies reporting results for last year to make one-off revisions to take account of tax relief they expected to receive.

The tax rules which apply until April 5 this year mean that companies can claim 100 per cent tax relief against capital expenditure.

Yesterday, Rotork, the valves and actuators group, Lex Services, the Volvo car distribution company, and Systems Designers International, the computer company, all announced extraordinary provisions in their 1983 results to take account of the changes in the tax rules.

General Motors British subsidiaries continued to operate at a loss last year, despite the dramatic turnaround in sales of the Vauxhall range of cars.

Losses from car sales totalled £1m in 1983.

Vauxhall claims to have secured a lead in the car market and says that new model ranges should take it into profit in

1984. The heavy truck market has fallen but light trucks have increased their market share.

Figures issued yesterday by the Government show that a total of 201,465 vehicles were registered in Britain in February. The statistics show that 41 per cent of vehicles are now registered by companies.

Vauxhall fails to stop loss

There was a £614,000 provision at Rotork to take account of the Chancellor's deferred tax charge. "Following the expressed intention to make fundamental changes in the method of giving tax allowances for capital spending", profits before the provision fell from £4.1m to £3.7m.

Systems Designers announced pretax profits up by half to £1.5m, but declared that the recent Budget proposals for phased withdrawal of capital allowances has led to a reassessment of the level of deferred tax provisions required.

Lex Services announced a provision of £12.1m in its results for 1983. The Lex board made the provision after declaring pretax profits of £38.3m, against £20m the previous year.

Legal & General

Legal & General

Legal & General

Legal & General

Legal & General

A B·A·T Industries Report
Preliminary results for the year ended 31 December 1983

"Profits have more than doubled over the past three years"



Once again B·A·T Industries has achieved a substantial profit increase in difficult circumstances. The splendid performance of our retailing, paper and packaging businesses, and of our associated companies, has more than offset some decline in tobacco profits.

As a result, Group pre-tax profit rose by 14 per cent to £979 million, while

attributable profit was 20 per cent higher at £547 million. The Group's profits have more than doubled over the past three years, a striking achievement by any standards. The latest improvements were achieved despite a modest increase of only 3 per cent in turnover, to £11,846 million.

These figures do not include Eagle Star, which was acquired only after the end of the year, and which is separately reporting today a 33 per cent increase in pre-tax profits for last year to £90 million, in line with what was forecast at the time of our offer.

The year brought many problems for our tobacco activities, and their trading profit declined by 5 per cent. Total volume was down reflecting higher excise duties and continued recession in many countries. We lost market share in the US and West Germany, although in the latter much was regained. We made gains in other markets, with exports from the UK doing particularly well.

Overall our tobacco profits were much improved in the second half of the year, as forecast in our interim announcement, and it is significant that they were also much better than in the second half of 1982. Productivity gains, especially in the US, made an important contribution to this profit recovery.

Retailing had an outstanding year. In the US, our companies were well placed to profit from higher consumer spending. Saks Fifth Avenue did exceptionally well, and continues with a vigorous expansion programme, as does Kohl's Department Stores. All three Gimbels units traded profitably, while the Marshall Field group of companies more than justified the high hopes with which we acquired them in 1982. In the UK, Argos continued its strong and profitable expansion, and it was particularly gratifying to see International Stores move into substantial profit.

The emphasis that we place on speciality papers was well rewarded, with important profit increases from Appleton in the US and from Wiggins Teape in the UK. Further rationalisation and some volume increase brought better results from Mardon Packaging and our German home improvements businesses achieved much higher profits.

In general our subsidiaries in North America continued to demonstrate their great inherent strength, and contributed no less than 57 per cent of Group trading profit. But a new and welcome feature of the year was the radical improvement in the UK, where our profits more than doubled to £80 million.

Industrial and geographical diversity remain at the heart of the Group's strategy, and the Eagle Star acquisition showed

our readiness to move on a very large scale into the rapidly growing financial services sector. But we must also withdraw from businesses which do not offer the right growth potential. Last year we disposed of a number of operations, notably Kohl's Food Stores, and since the year-end we have announced our withdrawal from direct selling in the UK cigarette market.

In the light of the excellent increase in profits attributable to the shareholders, the Board will be recommending a final dividend of 4.875p making a total for the year of 8.25p, which compares with a total of 6.875p last year, an increase of 20 per cent. Over the seven years since 1976 dividends will have increased at an average rate per annum of more than five per cent above the rate of inflation and it is our aim that dividends will continue to grow in real terms.

The first two months of 1984 appear to indicate that the world economy continues to pull out of the long recession. Particularly in the industrialised world, but also in many developing countries, our businesses are following on the encouraging trends of the second half of 1983. The Group is poised to move ahead in a more stimulating economic environment, and I shall comment as usual on the prospects for this year at the Annual General Meeting.

PATRICK SHEEHY, Chairman

GROUP PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

Year ended 31 December	1983 £ millions	1982 £ millions	% change
Turnover including duty and excise taxes	11,846	11,507	+3
Trading profit	851	783	+9
Net interest	3	(29)	—
	854	754	+13
Share of associated companies' profit before taxation	125	102	+23
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	979	856	+14
Taxation on ordinary activities	(373)	(346)	+8
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	606	510	+19
Attributable to minority shareholders	(59)	(56)	+5
Attributable to B·A·T Industries	547	454	+20
Dividends	120	100	+20
Earnings per share	37.569p	31.225p	+20
Dividends per share	8.250p	6.875p	+20

EXCHANGE RATE EFFECTS

The results of overseas subsidiaries have been translated into sterling for the purpose of this report at exchange rates ruling on 31 December in each year. Over the year to 31 December 1983 sterling weakened against the US dollar with a consequent favourable effect on the sterling figures reported. Had the same exchange rates ruled at the end as at the beginning of the year, it is estimated that the figures would have been as follows:

Year to 31 December 1983	£ millions	% change
Turnover	11,793	+2
Trading profit	823	+5
Profit before taxation	965	+13
Net profit attributable to B·A·T Industries	537	+18

These estimated figures do not include devaluations of the Brazilian cruzeiro and the Argentine peso against the US dollar to the extent that these devaluations represent the relative decline of the purchasing power of these currencies.

INDUSTRIAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL ANALYSES

Year ended 31 December	1983 £ millions	%	1982 £ millions	%
INDUSTRIAL				
Turnover				
Tobacco	6,138	52	6,468	56
Retailing	3,528	30	2,997	26
Paper	1,051	9	974	8
Packaging & printing	537	4	537	5
Other trading activities	592	5	531	5
	11,846	100	11,507	100
Profit				
Tobacco	542	64	572	73
Retailing	165	19	102	13
Paper	100	12	75	10
Packaging & printing	24	3	18	2
Other trading activities	20	2	16	2
	851	100	783	100
GEOGRAPHICAL				
Turnover				
United Kingdom	2,167	18	2,189	19
Europe	2,367	20	2,368	21
North America	4,521	38	3,478	30
Latin America	1,601	14	2,302	20
Asia	725	6	721	6
Africa	398	3	370	3
Australasia	67	1	79	1
	11,846	100	11,507	100
Profit				
United Kingdom	80	9	38	5
Europe	65	8	88	11
North America	485	57	383	49
Latin America	113	13	170	22
Asia	61	7	70	9
Africa	41	5	30	4
Australasia	6	1	4	—
	851	100	783	100

DIVIDENDS

The directors will be recommending to the shareholders at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 17 May 1984 the payment on 2 July 1984 of a final dividend for the year of 4.875p per ordinary share of 25p.

Transfers received in order by the Registrar of the Company up to 4 June 1984 will be in time to rank for payment of the final dividend.

The following is a summary of the dividends declared for the years to 31 December 1983 and 1982.

	1983	1982
Interim paid 16.11.83	3.375p	3.125p
Final proposed payable 2.7.84	4.875p	3.750p
	8.250p	6.875p

The dividends per share and earnings per share figures for 1982 have been adjusted to reflect the 3 for 1 capitalisation issue in June 1983.

INDUSTRIAL REVIEWS

TOBACCO

Total volume decreased by 5 per cent and in sterling terms turnover and trading profit were also down by that amount. In the US market, Brown & Williamson increased turnover by 6 per cent in dollars and trading profit by slightly less. Its domestic market share of industry shipments declined. Cheap brands further eroded profitability in West Germany but traditional brands recovered to over 80 per cent of the market and BAT Cigarettenfabriken, particularly strong in that segment, regained much of its market share. In Brazil, price increases were below the level of inflation, and margins were eroded by increased excise duty and downgrading. In sterling terms turnover and trading profit were down by 40 per cent. The total UK market was static and margins were depressed.

UK exports showed a 6 per cent volume increase. Turnover and trading profits rose and the strength of the US dollar further helped performance. US export sales continued to be depressed and in the German export trade profitability improved but the previous year's volume gains were reversed.

The successful launch of Barclay in Belgium, Holland and Finland, and its strong progress in Switzerland, gave an encouraging increase in European sales, market share and trading profits.

Apart from Brazil and Venezuela, Latin American turnover and trading profits improved. Better results in Argentina outweighed massive devaluation

and the Chilean company increased market share, turnover and trading profit. Downgrading and currency devaluation adversely affected the results in Venezuela. In Central America, Costa Rica and Honduras performed strongly.

In Asia, increases in total volume and turnover did not compensate fully for higher costs in a number of countries. However Hong Kong, Pakistan and Bangladesh all showed satisfactory improvements in trading profit. Despite a difficult year in Africa, Group companies performed commendably with better results in Kenya, Nigeria and Sierra Leone.

RETAILING

In an outstanding year for retailing, there was sharp improvement in the USA and further substantial progress in the UK. A consumer led recovery in the USA made a welcome contrast to the previous year. BATUS Retail Group had sales of over \$3.3 billion. Excluding Kohl's Food Stores, which was disposed of, turnover rose by 28 per cent and trading profit by 36 per cent.

Saks Fifth Avenue had a very strong year, with turnover up 12 per cent and trading profit 26 per cent. The three Gimbels units all traded profitably, with Gimbels-Milwaukee raising profit by 79 per cent. Kohl's Department Stores continued its rapid growth, with turnover up by a half and trading profit by 41 per cent in spite of expansion costs. Thimbles increased sales by about 20

per cent and will be expanded this year.

Marshall Field increased turnover satisfactorily and trading profit was up by over 32 per cent. Companies acquired with Marshall Field showed excellent improvements. Trading profit of Ivey's Carolinas rose 76 per cent, and more than doubled at Ivey's Florida. Frederick & Nelson's profit was up 45 per cent and Breuer's profit nearly tripled.

In the UK, Argos gained sales volume through existing stores and 13 new ones, and 65 of its 134 stores now include the successful Elizabeth Duke jewellery boutiques. Aggressive marketing, volume gains and improved efficiency provided another significant rise in trading profit. International Stores major refitting continued, a product improvement programme began, with emphasis on fresh meat and produce, and a substantial rise in trading profit came from volume gains in refitted stores and better margins.

PAPER

The Group's product range, with its emphasis on specialised papers, once more had a better year than the industry in general.

Appleton Papers in the USA made continued strong progress, recording further substantial volume and profit growth for carbonless copying paper and continuing

to gain from years of high investment in production efficiency. Its turnover rose by 13 per cent and trading profit by over 31 per cent in dollars. These results were further enhanced on translation to sterling.

The UK paper market showed some recovery during 1983. Wiggins Teape's UK sales were 7 per cent up with strong growth in fine papers, other speciality grades and the merchandising business. Exports at \$98 million were about a third of the group's UK output. There was a significant increase in profit. UK carbonless business reduced its trading loss and most other businesses had higher profits. Margins came under pressure, but improved operating efficiencies and lower costs compensated.

The European carbonless paper business continued to grow strongly, but pressure on prices caused profit to decline. The European merchants showed a 10 per cent growth in sales and trading profit.

PACKAGING AND PRINTING

Mardon Packaging International's turnover was maintained and trading profit in sterling terms improved by 33 per cent to £24 million. Excluding businesses divested at the beginning of the year, turnover rose by 10 per cent and trading profit by 26 per cent. In the UK and Europe, market conditions generally showed some

improvement, with volume growth coming from recent product introductions, although competition remained fierce. Profit recovered significantly, benefiting from higher volume, rationalisation and improved productivity. The upturn in the North American economy helped the Canadian and US businesses, with volume and profits well up on 1982.

ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

Associated companies accounted for £125 million of B·A·T Industries' pre-tax profits, an increase of 23 per cent over the previous year.

Inasco's pre-tax profit improved by 21 per cent in Canadian dollars. Its tobacco division increased its market share and trading profit rose by 11 per cent. The Hardee's restaurant business in the USA had a very successful year, with strong turnover growth and trading profit up by a quarter. Shoppers Drug Mart continued profitable growth.

AMATIL increased pre-tax profit by 12 per cent in Australian dollars. Tobacco products division achieved higher turnover and profits. Steggle's poultry profits were lower but the beverage division performed well. Printing and packaging earned substantially greater profits.

Skandinavisk Holding's turnover

These figures for the year ended 31 December 1983 have been extracted from the full financial statements to be delivered to the Registrar of Companies, and carry an unqualified audit report.

The Report and Accounts will be available on 19 April 1984. The Annual General Meeting will be held on 17 May 1984.

B·A·T INDUSTRIES

National & Provincial Building Society

Notice to Existing and Prospective Borrowers and Investors.

Notice to Existing and Prospective Borrowers

National & Provincial Building Society hereby gives notice that the rates of interest applicable to existing annual rent mortgage accounts and outstanding offers of advance are to be reduced by 1% with effect from 1st April 1984.

Where a mortgage deed specifies a period of notice before an increase in the rate of interest applicable to it is effective then the same period of notice shall apply to the implementation of this reduction and will commence on 1st April 1984.

For the purposes of this notice an outstanding offer of advance means an offer of advance or further advance dated prior to 31st March 1984.

The new rate of interest and revised repayment figure applicable to an existing mortgage and all outstanding offers completed on or before 31st March 1984 will be notified in each borrower's annual statement

of account which will be sent during January 1985.

Any borrower suffering financial hardship and requiring an earlier review of a repayment figure should communicate with the Society.

Where an outstanding offer of advance has not been taken up by 31st March 1984 the new rate of interest and revised repayment figure will be quoted in the statement sent to each borrower after completion.

Prospective borrowers requiring information relating to the effect of this notice prior to completion should contact the branch of the Society which issued the offer of advance or the Society's Administration Centre.

Notice to Investors

National & Provincial Building Society hereby gives notice that the rates of interest paid in all departments (except the Save As You Earn scheme) will be reduced by 1% p.a. with effect from 1st April 1984.

National & Provincial Everyone's local building society

Assets over £3900m.

Provincial House, Bradford, W. Yorks. BD1 1NL.

Over 1500 branches and agents.

After months of political in-fighting and occasionally heated debate, the accountancy profession has at last put out whips, if not clouds, of white smoke which indicate that a solution has been found to the problem of accounting for inflation in company financial statements.

Like cardinals searching for a new pope, the accounting standards committee, the profession's chosen vehicle for determining how companies should best deal with thorny technical accounting problems, has met religiously on the last Wednesday of each month to toy with a long series of compromise solutions.

At last it has agreed on an approach which, it hopes, will demonstrate how inflation has affected a company's results and find enough public support to restore a degree of credibility to the standard setting process.

The new statement of intent, as such meetings of minds are grandly titled, proposes an accounting standard which will apply to all public limited companies. This expands the previous inflation accounting standard, SSAP, which applied only to large and listed companies.

If the new standard is to reach the accounting statute books it must first go through an exposure draft phase for public debate and comment. If it passes this hurdle, it will have a different look to its ill-fated predecessor, but a familiar content. Out goes the requirement to produce a separate set of current cost accounts which were both confusing and largely

ignored. Under the new standard the inflation accounting information would be disclosed in a note to the accounts. Failure to do so would land a company with a qualified audit report.

The actual information does not differ widely from that required by SSAP 16. Historical cost operating profit will be amended by the cost of sales, monetary working capital and depreciation adjustments which in broad terms account for the impact of inflation on stocks, debtors less creditors, and fixed assets, respectively. A gearing adjustment, which accounts for the benefits of borrowing money in times of inflation, could also be needed and three different methods of calculation will be allowed. The note will also give details of the current cost values of stocks and fixed assets.

Agreement on a solution was urgently needed. For the last 18 months the accountancy profession has bickered about inflation accounting to such an extent that many companies simply gave up preparing current cost accounts. Accountants have argued about whether inflation accounting is needed at all. They argued about whether all companies should account for inflation or just large ones; about whether inflation accounting is necessary for accounts to show a true and fair view. They have, indeed, argued themselves into a tight corner.

The attitude taken by a lot of companies is that if the standard setters cannot agree on the right approach then perhaps that right approach simply does



Ian Griffiths: important to find right solution

not exist. There is now a feeling that the ASC's edicts cannot be just given out unchallenged.

The inflation accounting debate has been dragging on in various guises since 1971, so it is little surprise that Mr Ian Davison, chairman of the ASC, said: "It is important for us to get the solution right and it is important to get on with providing that solution."

Although the various accountancy bodies had toyed with the problems which inflation posed for financial reporting in the years after the Second World War, it was not until 1971 that the first positive steps were taken to seek out a valid and practical solution. What was then the accounting standards steering committee started talks with representatives from industry and commerce, including the Bank of England, the Department of Trade and Industry, and the

Stock Exchange. The group became known as the ASSC Plenary Committee.

By January, 1973, an exposure draft, Ed 8, entitled "Accounting for the changes in the purchasing power of money", had been published. It advocated a system of current purchasing power (CPP) which essentially converted currency units in a set of accounts into units at a common date by use of a general price index.

Its future was soon in doubt. Before the period of comment on Ed 8 had expired the Government, which was then dubious about any kind of indexation, announced that it was setting up its own independent committee of inquiry into inflation accounting under the chairmanship of Sir Francis Sandilands.

The dilemma faced was whether to press ahead with a full accounting standard and risk prejudicing the Government inquiry or simply sit tight and do nothing. It solved the problem with the compromise of issuing a provisional statement of standard accounting practice, PSSAP 7. Compromise was to become the watchword of the inflation accounting debate.

The provisional standard came into effect from June 30, 1974. A little over a year later this system had been specifically rejected by the Sandilands committee. Instead, Sir Francis suggested a current cost accounting system to deal with inflation in company accounts, which the accountancy profession duly provided in the guise of an exposure draft, ED 18. It was criticized for being too complicated, too subjective, and too expensive.

It also had another problem. Two members of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, Mr David Keymer and Mr Martin Haslam, small practitioners from Burgess Hill in Sussex, were opposed to any form of compulsory current cost accounting. They proposed a special resolution to the members of the institute rejecting compulsory current cost accounting, and the resolution was passed.

Having been snubbed by the Government, the standard setters had now been snubbed by the grass roots membership of the accountancy profession. From this setback the ASC started the process all over again.

After impasse was reached at the ASC's February meeting, Solomon at last made an appearance in the form of legal counsel's opinion, which stated that small companies need not comply with an inflation accounting standard for their accounts still to show a true and fair view.

The ensuing compromise which could thus be launched and which was approved yesterday by the ASC is the accountancy profession's last chance to redeem itself. With inflation at around only 5 per cent and an inbuilt resistance in many companies to inflation accounting, redemption will not come easily.

Little if any progress has been made in the last 14 years, and the standard setting process has been sorely challenged. If the new standard is accepted there might just be a chance that accounting for inflation will be able to develop in the way it should — by evolution.

BOWATER 1983

Bowater Corporation announces profits and plans for the future

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

	1983	1982
North America:		£m
Turnover	587	555
Trading profit	54.5	83.2
United Kingdom, Europe, Australia and Far East:		
Turnover	1036	1011
Trading profit	49.5	21.8
Profit before taxation	68.3	72.5
Profit attributable to shareholders	40.0	30.2
Earnings per ordinary share (pence)	24.7	18.6

From Lord Erroll of Hale's statement in the 1983 Annual Report

"We completed 1983 with a pretax profit of £68.3m, not quite reaching the 1982 result but considerably better than looked achievable in the early months of the year. Our second half results showed an improvement of two thirds over the first, helped by firmer markets for our North American pulp and paper operations. However, the combined results of our other businesses — our international group — showed very strong growth, continuing the trend we saw last June and contributing nearly half of the overall trading profits for the year.

This better balance in our activities is the product of a long period of reorganisation and adjustment throughout Bowater. It has also produced new opportunities and placed us in a much better

position to exploit them. We have, therefore, announced a complex package of proposals, which we believe to be in the best interests of the business, its employees and of its shareholders. On completion of these proposals, members will hold shares directly in both our North American group and our international group of businesses, each of which will be listed in the capital markets which best suit its needs.

The proposals include financing operations in both the United Kingdom and the United States designed to start each of the two new groupings on a secure financial basis. We propose to raise £40m by an offer of rights to existing shareholders and to follow this with a public issue of shares in our North American holding company to new investors in America."

To: The Secretary, Bowater Corporation plc, Bowater House, Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LR

Please send me a copy of the document containing the rights issue and demerger proposals which is being despatched to shareholders today, and of the Annual Report for 1983.

Name _____

Address _____

T29/3

AQUIS SECURITIES PLC

PROPERTY INVESTMENT & DEVELOPMENT

Extracts from Mr Harold Quinlan's Review of the year ended 31st December, 1983
(With comparative figures for the year to 31st December, 1982, where appropriate)

- * Net profit before tax £844,175 (1982: £807,835)
- * An open market value of £19,684,501 has been adopted into the books of account at the financial year end to reflect the value of completed investment properties retained in the portfolio
- * Total dividends for the year will be 1.45 pence per share (1982: 1.3 pence per share) upon acceptance of the proposal for the final dividend of 1.00 pence per share (1982: 0.9 pence per share)
- * Group retained profits carried forward £1,023,983 (1982: £821,527)
- * Total amount attributable to shareholders 62 pence per share (1982: 57 pence per share)

The Seventy-seventh Annual General Meeting will take place at noon on Friday, 27th April, 1984 at the Waldorf Hotel, Aldwych London WC2B 4DD



Putting people first since 1830

154th Annual General Meeting NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 154th Annual General Meeting of the National Mutual Life Assurance Society will be held at 5 Bow Churchyard (off Chancery Lane) in the City of London on Tuesday, 1st day of May 1984, at noon for the following purposes:

- to receive and consider the Directors' Report, the Accounts and Balance Sheet for 1983 and the Auditors' Report thereon;
- to elect Directors;
- to approve the rates of Directors' remuneration;
- to re-appoint the Auditors and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.

A member qualified to vote at the above meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote on a poll instead of him. A proxy need not be a member of the Society.

By order of the Board
W. P. JACKSON
Secretary

20th March 1984

Superdrug

ANOTHER RECORD YEAR IN SALES, PROFITABILITY AND NEW STORE OPENINGS

PRELIMINARY RESULTS 52 weeks to 25 Feb 1984	1984	1983
Turnover (ex VAT)	101,459	81,329
Net Profit before Tax	6,837	5,305
Taxation	2,827	2,337
Net Profit after Tax	4,010	2,968
Final Dividends	735	285
Earnings per Share	11.46p	8.48p

- Sales increased by 24.7%
- Profit before tax increased by 25.9%
- Proposed final dividend of 2.1p (interim 1.4p) total for year 3.5p
- 31 additional branches opened during year
- For 84/85 at least 35 new branches planned
- Another satisfactory outcome for the year anticipated

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BARCLAYS 1983

Barclays well placed as economic recovery gathers speed.

The Annual General Meeting of Barclays Bank PLC will be held in London on 25th April 1984. The following is the address to the Stockholders by the Chairman, Sir Timothy Bevan, for the year 1983.

I am glad to report that the final result at £557 million is not unsatisfactory, particularly in the light of the various strains to which international banks have been exposed. Historically, banks do relatively well at the onset of a recession, when both interest rates and bank lending have reached high levels, but in return they continue to suffer in the first phase of a recovery when interest rates are lower and corporate lending remains slack, but bad debts continue to rise. The past year has been no exception; and 1983 was the worst year on record for the number of business failures. Thus it is that our results have again been adversely affected by provisions for bad and doubtful debts both in the United Kingdom and overseas, and in recognition of these continuing uncertainties, particularly internationally, we have thought it right to increase the level of our general provisions to £306 million.

As stockholders will know, it is planned to merge the Clearing Bank and Barclays International, and so I hope that by the time the next statement comes to be written the Group will be operating as one integrated unit; but in the meantime I would like to say a little about some of the divisional activities in 1983.

U.K. Division

In Barclays U.K., Mr Henry Lambert, a Group Deputy Chairman returned as Divisional Chairman on the departure of Mr DV Weyer (who remains on the Group Board) to be Deputy Chairman of British Telecom.

Profits have been maintained at much the same level as those of last year, but this apparently flat performance conceals a useful improvement—in 1983 there was a fall in average base rate from 11.9% in 1982 to 9.8%, and 1982's results owed around £45 million to profits realised from Gilt-Edged securities. We are also now reaping the rewards of a systematic drive on costs, and there has been a useful growth in fee income from admittedly low levels.

Although last year brought an encouraging upturn in several sectors of the domestic economy, many of our customers, especially in manufacturing, still need nursing, and our bad and doubtful debt list shows that a number have succumbed in spite of our support. Happily more still have succeeded, in the difficult and dangerous years since the first oil shock, in cutting down unnecessary expenses, preserving adequate liquidity, and making themselves efficient enough to prosper in the future. Much of the country's success in the years ahead will depend on progress both in the entirely new industries which science is creating, and on how traditional industries use modern manufacturing technology and machinery. We have formed a well regarded high technology unit to back our rapidly expanding involvement in this challenging field.

We have now had a full year of Saturday opening and the activity we see shows how much our customers (and those of other banks) appreciate the service and the informal and relaxed atmosphere in these branches. We are well pleased with the response, which has justified our initiative.

The proportion of our credit balances held on cheque accounts has been maintained at about 26%, but we have been faced with a continuing drain on our seven-day deposit accounts, where funds have again gone to the Building Societies and to National Savings. Whilst relatively high interest rates, basically caused by the distant U.S. budget deficit, are attractive to savers, the consequence for the borrower, particularly the troubled industrial borrower, is expensive.

International Division

In Barclays International, Mr Frank Dolling succeeded Mr Lambert as Divisional Chairman and Group Deputy Chairman. He is also the first Chairman of Barclays International to have spent virtually his entire working life in that part of the Group.

We have formed a U.S. Committee, the Chairman of which is Mr Bill Sneath, a distinguished American businessman, to advise on all our U.S. operations—we have all told \$13 billion in assets and 7,700 on the payroll there.

In South Africa our interest in Barclays National has been reduced from 55% to 50.45% by not taking up our rights in a recent issue made by Barclays National, and in anticipation of the requirements of the South African authorities.

As I have already indicated, our overseas operations have not escaped their share of bad and doubtful debts and provisions are at a record high level. But profits have shown a strong recovery, and what is pleasing is the upward trend of trading profits before provisions. In North America, where we had suffered, particularly in the energy sector, the problems have been identified; and an overall loss in 1982 has been converted to a modest profit in 1983. The upturn in the economy in the U.S.A. should help us to continue to expand our business and to build on the solid base we have established. In Hong Kong, like other banks, we have felt the effects of the collapse in property values, but elsewhere the profit contribution from our relatively recently established operations continues to grow. We therefore expect to continue the process whereby the Group becomes less dependent on profits earned in the U.K.

Barclays Merchant Bank

This has also continued to do well both in its own right and as a promoter of invigorating ideas to other parts of the Group: We are fully committed to expanding our merchant banking operations both in the U.K. and on an international basis, and to this end have formed an International Merchant Banking and a Corporate Services Division.

Mercantile Credit Company

The Company has had a difficult year as the recession continued to bite, with increased bad debt provisions having to be made, particularly in the traditional consumer portfolio. This has resulted in lower profits, and against this background the Company has made strenuous and successful efforts to improve the quality of its business, and is concentrating on reducing its costs. It looks forward to the future with confidence.

Trust Company

1983 was a good year for this Division. All the companies within it benefited from the strength of stockmarkets throughout the world, but equally important factors were very healthy inflows of new business and continued success in containing the growth of operating expenses. As a result, the Division's contribution to Group profits was higher than ever before.

Capital Adequacy

During 1983 we raised U.S.\$400 million of loan capital in what was the largest ever private sector foreign issue in the U.S. bond market. This, together

with retentions and other smaller loan capital additions, contributed to an increase of over £700 million in the Bank's capital resources and, coupled with control over our asset growth, there has been as a result a further strengthening of capital ratios.

Since the end of the year, taking advantage of favourable Euromarket conditions, we have raised a further U.S.\$350 million.

Profits

Bank profits are an emotive subject, and sometimes I feel it is an unfair world in that criticism seems to come from two totally different directions. Firstly, from the investment analyst who says they are too small, and secondly from some observers of the domestic scene who say that the High Street banks make too much.

In a sense, both can make a case. From the point of view of the analyst, average capital resources for the year amounted to about £3,950 million, and as a measure only, if that money were to have been invested in United Kingdom Government securities, in 1983 our profit would have been in excess of £490 million instead of the £659 million total group profit we have declared. Thus the additional return which the 135,000 staff of the Barclays Group provided in 5,570 offices around the world was only £169 million which is, arguably, too small to compensate for the risks involved in banking.

Secondly, from the point of view of the domestic commentator, the profit might be considered too large if Barclays were just a High Street bank—it is not—it is the sixth largest international bank in the world, and more than half of our balance sheet relates to our international business.

Sometimes, too, it is argued that the banks pay too little tax, but again this argument has little validity. If leasing customers could not use the banks' tax allowances, investment might well diminish, with all that that entails for national growth and unemployment—and leasing is reckoned to have accounted for 18.3% of total U.K. manufacturing investment in 1982, and is forecast to account for over 16% in 1983.

Change

1983 was a year of upheaval and change, and at home the scene has become still more competitive, especially in our personal sector business. This is not unfair, but it does mean that the banks will have to change their ways to provide the service that the customer wants. In the past, the banks have tended to tell their industrial customers that they must adapt to new conditions or gradually fade away, but banks themselves must be prepared to face change too.

For instance, in 1950, when I joined the Bank, 75% of the Clearing Bank deposits were in non-interest-paying current accounts, and in return for leaving that money with us interest free, customers were provided with a multiplicity of branches each offering the services of the Bank for no charge, or at only a fraction of their cost.

Now our cheque account balances have fallen from 75% to 26%, but if customers have decided to keep that much less on cheque accounts the implication is that they will have increasingly to pay for services as they are used. If this is what customers want, then, of course, we must provide it—for instance, as I said earlier, we think that many personal customers want to use a branch on Saturdays, so we have opened about 440 of them. The changing scene should not mean we will employ fewer staff, but should mean that by adapting we can attract more customers.

Corporate customers also require specialised service, and to this end we are pressing on with improvements to our world-wide electronic data processing systems.

This is an expensive and time-consuming business, but we have a sound and increasingly advanced infrastructure. The range of computerised banking services which we can offer through this network is rapidly growing. In the knowledge that we shall need to widen these for our corporate customers in the coming years, we have introduced a new cash management service, marketed under the name of BarCaM, which has taken more than 40,000 man-hours to develop.

The changing scene is not restricted to the United Kingdom: the U.S. banking industry is also in a state of flux, and in South Africa too things are changing fast, with interest being paid on cheque accounts, and consequently increased emphasis on transmission charges.

The world over, consumerism is on the march and we should welcome it, as we have welcomed the report of the National Consumer Council in the United Kingdom—consumerism is, after all, the voice of the consumer whose financial needs we have to serve to provide our livelihood.

It is to face the challenges of the 1980s that we are proceeding with the reorganisation of the Group into one bank that was mentioned in my statement last year. The necessary Bill has been deposited in Parliament and those involved in the Bank are enthusiastic, for there is a general realisation that in today's integrated world, the Bank too has to operate as an integrated unit. This means change and adaptation for us all.

The Economy

Turning first to the economy at home, the outstanding feature has been a fall in the inflation rate to a figure no higher than the world average, and one that is certainly lower than seemed likely a year ago. This achievement, mainly the fruit of the Government's financial policies, has checked the erosion of money and savings, and has improved confidence.

An immediate consequence has been a considerable increase in consumer spending over the past eighteen months, which has been reflected, as far as the banks are concerned, in a high rate of growth of the demand for advances from our personal customers.

By way of contrast, the combination of relatively low capital outlays by industry at a time of a long overdue improvement in profitability and a buoyant new issue market led to a relatively weak loan demand from manufacturing industry in particular in 1983.

In the current year the increase in consumer spending is likely to slow down whereas corporate capital outlays will probably show a welcome increase. As a result, the increase in bank lending to the personal sector could well decelerate, but lending to the corporate sector will probably expand.

This is as it should be: for the upturn in the economy to be soundly based we need to see the emphasis changing from consumption to investment. But if the industrial upturn is to become a solid revival, it will require a continued improvement in profitability from its still low level, and this in turn will require continued restraint of wage costs or a commensurate improvement in pro-

ductivity. It is unlikely that industry will receive much further benefit from interest rate movements in 1984.

Many of our industrial customers will benefit from the revival of the world economy as the upturn in North America and Japan finally spreads to Europe, which is the U.K.'s biggest market. But the world upturn is likely to be modest by past standards; real interest rates are still too high, and deep structural problems persist.

International Banking

The international banking scene is still sombre, if not as threatening as it seemed a year or so ago. The first point I should make to stockholders is that your Bank is relatively well placed: for instance, our total Latin American exposure amounts to about 3% of total assets, which compares favourably with most other international banks.

On the overall situation millions of words have been written, but it seems to me that the basic facts are fairly clear. World trade was severely dislocated by the oil price rises of 1974 and 1979, which caused worldwide recession—as an example of this, the volume of laid-up shipping in the world was only about 1 million deadweight tonnes in 1974 compared with 84 million deadweight tonnes today, which is the equivalent of about 12% of total world shipping tonnage. Traditionally, the job of banks is to foster world trade—thus two-thirds of our Brazilian exposure is trade-related—and the dislocation of world trade in recent years would have been even worse if the banks had not played their part.

But in many of the countries that have taken their re-scheduling medicine by cutting imports and investment and standards of living, increasing only exports, there is a limit to how far they can go for domestic political reasons. Equally exports cannot for ever be increased if a large part of the world is restricting imports, including the richer countries that are following restrained financial policies to curb the menace of inflation.

At the same time banks generally are reluctant to increase their country limits—and correctly so. Banks have to spread their risks and not place too many eggs in one basket if a major bank collapse is to be avoided.

To compound the problem, the interest payment burden of debtor countries is largely determined by U.S. interest rates, and at their present level of indebtedness the net interest bill for the non-oil developing countries is running at about \$44 billion per annum, contributing to a combined current account deficit of some \$65-70 billion in 1983.

Finally, the growth of the Eurocurrency market on which banks depend for a large proportion of their international funds has declined sharply, which could eventually make it more expensive for the level of lending required to be supplied. In December 1982 the Euromarket was reckoned to total about \$1,400 billion by the Bank for International Settlements, and by the end of 1983 it is estimated to be \$1,430 billion, a very low rate of growth when compared with an average of about 18% in recent years.

In these circumstances an international effort by both governments and banks seems to be called for—governments should not ignore their responsibilities, but banks should not expect their governments to free them from the penalties of errors or misjudgements they have made in the past.

Nevertheless, it is clear that there is a limit to the contribution which both banks and governments can make to solving the problem of international indebtedness. Banks are constrained by their capital resources and by commercial prudence, while governments are restricted by the reluctance of taxpaying voters to foot the bill.

It follows that a cure for the problem—as opposed to the application of first-aid—will require a return to the financing of developing country projects through the medium of private capital flows outside the world banking system. This, however, will happen only if the developing countries themselves take the measures necessary to encourage private capital, and in any case it is unlikely to happen overnight.

Unless there is a somewhat miraculous combination of high economic growth and low interest rates in the developed world, the problem of international indebtedness is likely to remain with us for some time, but discussion and understanding would be a useful first step.

Staff

Earlier in this statement I mentioned capital ratios, but perhaps I could end by mentioning the most important capital asset that stockholders have—an enthusiastic and socially responsible staff. Stockholders are fortunate in this, their greatest asset.

Timothy Bevan

Sir Timothy Bevan, Chairman of Barclays Bank PLC, 1st March 1984.

The Barclays Bank Report and Accounts gives a comprehensive review of the Group's activities in the U.K. and around the world. To obtain a copy, just send this coupon to the address below.

Name _____
Address _____
Post Code _____



REGISTERED OFFICE: 34 LOMBARD STREET, LONDON EC3P 3AH. REG. NO. 48839.

FT - ACTUARIES INDICES	
INDUSTRIAL GROUP	517.82 (518.80)
500 SHARE INDEX	564.72 (555.88)
*EARNINGS YIELD	9.83% (9.59%)
DIVIDEND YIELD	4.23% (4.21%)
P.E. RATIO (NET)	12.78 (12.84)
ALL SHARE INDEX	521.14 (521.40)
DIVIDEND YIELD	4.38% (4.37%)

* estimated



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The letters to parents for 1983 and the winter of experience due been set aside

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COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

US and Central TV lift Ladbroke

First-time contributions from US property and the stake in central Independent Television helped increase Ladbroke Group's profits from £35.9m to £42.4m last year.

The figures were in line with expectations. The hotels and holiday business benefited from the increase in overseas visitors and more business travelling. Profits increased from £10m to £11.6m. The traditional betting and race-course interests increased profits from £17.3m to £20.6m. The total dividend for the year has been increased by more than 12 per cent to 9.015p.

● **CABLE & WIRELESS:** The company now owns 79 per cent of Telco's ordinary and 76 per cent of the warrants which would represent 79 per cent of the issued share capital of Telco.

● **PRITCHARD SERVICES:** Through its subsidiary, Pritchard Janitorial Supplies, the group has acquired Spearhead Chemicals, together with its subsidiaries Venetian Products, Multiclean, GNR (Chemicals) and the Janitorial Supply House and of Hygeonol from Oceana Holdings for £380,000, cash.

● **SKETCHLEY:** The company has completed the acquisition of the Diaper Service division of Blessings Corp. Sketchley has also exercised its option to acquire the industrial laundry and linen supply business of Crown Linen and Uniform Service Company.

● **FERRY PICKERING GROUP:** Intm div lp on increased cap for six months to December 31, 1983. Div pay May 11. Figs in £000. Turnover 5,162 (4,704). Pretax profit 751 (740). Tax 375.5 (384). Min-orities 1 (1). EPS 3.484p (3.302p adj).

● **GIBBS AND DANDY:** Interim dividend 1.4p (same)

on ord and a ord shs for 1983, pay May 18. Turnover £14,880,490 (£13,763,544). Pretax pft £240,444 (£302,661). Tax cdt £4,664 (dnt 17,872).

● **BRITANNIA ARROW HDGS:** Div 12p (0.9p) mkg 2.2p (1.7p) for 1983. Div pay April 20. Figs in £000. Turnover 53,7148 (25,8347). Pretax pft 10,065 (6033) share price 85p on lp.

● **MARKS AND SPENCER CANADA:** Div 20 cents plus 15 cents extra mkg 45 (30) cents. Sales year to January 31, 1984. Figs Can \$ 000-276-648 (251,141). Operating pft 16,337 (13,230). Pretax pft 13,808 (8,527). Tax 5,950 (3,500).

● **WEIR GROUP:** Final 1.75p mkg 2.125p (2.5p) for 1983. Pay May 25. Turnover-figs in £000-119,826 (136,901). Pre interest pft 6,531 (10,136). Interest 1,588 (2,456). Pretax pft 4,943 (7,680).

● **SUPRA GROUP:** Final 1.15p making 1.9p (same) for yr to Nov 30, 1983. May 25. Figs in £000 7/over 11,692 (10,015). Pretax pft 774 (loss 63).

● **SLOUGH ESTATES:** Final 2.475p making 4p for 1983. Figs in £000. UK rental inc 25,120 (25,110). Overseas rental inc 12,420 (11,250). Pretax pft 20,186 (16,166).

Scottish Life Investments

INSURANCE FUNDS

	1984	1983
Managed Property	98.5	100.3
UK Equity	99.6	100.0
American	96.5	101.7
Pacific	103.4	109.0
European	97.2	102.4
International	96.8	101.0
Fixed Interest	95.9	101.1
Index Linked	97.0	102.2
Chopped	95.3	100.4
Gross	84.4	85.0
Net Managed	96.9	104.2
Net Property	95.5	99.4
Net UK Equity	100.7	106.2
Net American	96.9	102.1
Net Pacific	109.0	110.8
Net European	97.7	102.9
Net Int	100.7	106.1
Net Fixed Int	96.1	101.3
Net Index Ltd	97.4	102.7
Net Deposits	95.3	100.1

Scottish Life
19 St Andrew Square-Edinburgh
Telephone: 031-225 2211

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	8 1/4%
Barclays	8 1/4%
BCCI	8 1/4%
Citibank Savings	10 1/4%
Consolidated Cds	9%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	8 1/4%
Lloyds Bank	8 1/4%
Midland Bank	8 1/4%
Nat Westminster	8 1/4%
TSB	8 1/4%
Williams & Glyn's	8 1/4%

† Mortgage Rates (12m)

• 7 day deposits on notice of notice £10,000, 10 day £20,000 and over 70%

Eagle Star

SUMMARY OF GROUP RESULTS FOR 1983

The letters to shareholders recommending the offer by B.A.T. Industries plc for the Ordinary shares of Eagle Star indicated that the anticipated profits for 1983 would be of the order of £90m. This was based on a number of stated assumptions, one of which was that the weather during the winter of 1983/84 would be similar to that experienced in 1982/83. In addition to storm damage in the closing days of 1983 the claims experience during January 1984 was affected by adverse weather and in accordance with our normal accounting policies amounts have been set aside to take account of this. Nevertheless the reported profits are £90.3m made up as follows:-



Sir Denis Mountain, Bt., Chairman.

	1983	1982
PREMIUM INCOME		
Fire, accident and motor	537.4	491.3
Marine, aviation and transport	34.3	30.4
Long term - annual premiums	215.9	188.2
- single premiums	98.4	158.7
	886.0	867.6
PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT		
Investment income	109.9*	100.3*
Profits of Grovewood Securities	23.3	17.0
Share of associated companies' profits	0.2	-
Shareholders' long term profits	20.5	17.2
Underwriting loss	(60.3)**	(63.7)**
Expenses not charged to other accounts	(3.3)	(2.8)
Surplus	90.3**	68.0**
Taxation	(32.1)	(29.5)
Minority interests	(4.6)	(3.0)
Extraordinary items - net of taxation	3.2	(1.1)
Dividends	56.8	34.4
	(27.7)	(23.4)
Balance added to retained profits and reserves	29.1	11.0

*After deducting £1.9m in respect of interest on loan notes (1982: £2.1m).
**After transfers from reserves.

The Directors are recommending a final dividend of 12p per share payable on 2nd July 1984 to ordinary shareholders on the register as at the close of business on 29th June 1984 which, with the interim dividend, will give a total dividend for the year of 20p per share (1982: 17p).

At the end of 1983 the free reserves of the group, including £508m in respect of gross capital appreciation on investments, but excluding the value of the shareholders' equity in life funds, amounted to approximately 130 per cent of the general business premium income. This compares with 110 per cent at the end of 1982 and provides a substantial margin of free reserves, over and above the provision for liabilities.

GENERAL INSURANCE BUSINESS. Competition for insurance business worldwide continues to be intense and we have continued a policy of protecting our insurance portfolio without accepting risks at premium rates which cannot be justified on the basis of claims experience. The table set out below analyses the income and underwriting results for each major territory including an estimate of the investment income applicable to the insurance business in each territory.

	Premium income £m	Underwriting result £m	Investment income less expenses £m	1983 Total £m	1982 Total £m
United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland*	399.2	(44.3)	64.1	19.0	12.7
Australia	41.5	(1.8)	3.9	2.1	(1.6)
Belgium	26.2	(6.1)	3.8	(2.3)	(0.3)
South Africa	65.6	1.9	4.3	6.2	3.9
USA	21.9	(7.2)	1.3	(5.9)	(1.4)
Other territories	17.3	(3.8)	2.6	(1.2)	(3.3)
Change in provision for unexpired risks (overseas business)		1.0		1.0	0.5
		(60.3)	80.0	19.7**	10.5**
Attributable to shareholders' funds			49.9	49.9	40.3
		(60.3)	129.9	69.6	50.8

*Including reinsurance and worldwide marine and aviation.

**After transfers from reserves.

UNITED KINGDOM. There was a substantial improvement in the overall profit from £10.4m in 1982 to £17.9m. Competition for commercial business at the beginning of the year was particularly severe but recently there has been some hardening in attitudes. Commercial fire and liability business made an underwriting loss of £5.8m and £7.2m (1982: £6.0m, £13.0m) respectively before attributable investment income. The all-in account showed a loss of £12.4m (1982: £12.2m) and the motor account a loss of £1.5m (1982: £1.9m), the latter benefiting from falling inflation with consequent savings on claims estimates made previously. Premium levels for personal lines business are still inadequate. Although there has been some upward movement in motor rates, those for household risks are still insufficient to cover claims from adverse weather and increasing numbers of burglaries.

The results for London Market business reflect inadequate rates throughout the year. Overall there was a loss of £6.8m (1982: £5.7m). Reinsurers are imposing increased premiums and more stringent terms but we do not expect to see the benefits of these reflected in our reinsurance account for some time. Industrial disease claims are still causing concern and we have further strengthened our claims provisions from inner reserves. The worldwide marine and aviation account has suffered from severe international competition together with particular problems in France, resulting in a loss of £2.5m (1982: £1.0m).

Overseas results in many territories were also affected by adverse weather during the fourth quarter of 1983. Whilst underwriting results in Australia and South Africa improved considerably over 1982 these were more than offset by deteriorating results in Belgium and the United States.

LIFE ASSURANCE BUSINESS. The achievements in 1983 have been dominated by the success in selling low cost endowment business connected with the introduction of the MIRAS system of granting tax relief on mortgages. In addition, ordinary business, particularly that connected with linked-savings schemes through Building Societies, recorded significant growth. Individual pension business has also been a strong feature with sales of our self-employed reversion contract being significantly up on 1982.

The fall in overall premiums is principally accounted for by a reduction in the sale of bonds. Opportunities in this market vary significantly from one year to another.

GROVEWOOD SECURITIES. Grovewood Securities has again achieved record profits amounting to £23.3m, a 37 per cent increase over 1982. This Group under the chairmanship of Mr John Denny has the excellent record of increased profits for the past 18 years which shows the strength of the constituent companies in the Group.

A public offer for sale by tender of 25 per cent of the equity of VG Instruments PLC, a subsidiary of Grovewood, was made in December 1983 and the shares are standing at a substantial premium.

The above is a summary of the results for the year. The full report and accounts which contain an unqualified auditors' report will be published on 13th April 1984 and delivered to the Registrar of Companies within the prescribed period.

Eagle Star Holdings PLC

1, Threadneedle Street, London EC2R 8BE

GOLF Ballesteros facing problem of identity

From Mitchell Platts
Ponte Vedra, Florida

The problem facing Severiano Ballesteros is that, having won a 10-year struggle to gain recognition in Spain, he is now fighting a new battle for it in America. Two victories in the United States Masters might have earned him the respect of his rivals, but that is as far as it goes. In the locker room at the Players' Club at Sawgrass, waiting for the rain to cease so that he can practice for the Tournament Players' Championship, which starts today, he is simply a face among a galaxy of stars.

Peter Oosterhuis, vastly experienced when it comes to diagnosing the difficulties of conquering the American golf scene, says: "The problem is the same one that Tony (Jacklin) came up against. He has the game to be number one, but he drives on being admired and adored, and that doesn't happen overnight here."

At the moment the statistics suggest that all is not well. Ballesteros has played in four tournaments and twice missed the halfway cut. His best finish is fifteenth. He has won \$11,490, for 110th place in the current official money list, which is headed by Gary Koch (\$199,000), and Bernhard Langer (nineteenth, \$72,000) and Nick Faldo (thirty-ninth, \$43,000) have been overshadowing him.

What makes his position look even bleaker is his morose manner as he sits in the locker room flicking through a magazine in which he clearly has no interest. He parries questions from the British contingent and even seems surprised that Langer has won as much as \$72,000. "I hear he got married earlier this year," Ballesteros says. "Perhaps that is the secret. Perhaps I should get married..."

It is said as a joke. Yet in truth it is a company, or rather the lack of it, which could ultimately decide Ballesteros's future in America. He would not be the first, or the last, to turn his back on the American scene because of boredom off the course and homesickness. Indeed, he suggested he might play in the Madrid Open next month.

Even so, what still sets Ballesteros apart from the others is his ability to discipline himself. He is currently neither eating red meat nor smoking. They don't even minor points but they help the Spaniard to maintain an interest in life over here. Langer continues to maintain that he will return to Europe rather than play his United States player's card and this season, Faldo seems more likely than Oosterhuis to play a significant role in this tournament, but the American stronghold in the title will probably be maintained.

Card of course

Hole	Yds	Par	Hole	Yds	Par
1	288	4	10	395	5
2	311	5	11	329	4
3	125	3	12	326	4
4	360	4	13	175	3
5	454	5	14	368	4
6	381	4	15	438	4
7	438	4	16	487	5
8	451	5	17	125	3
9	562	5	18	440	4

US champions will compete in Ryder Cup

By Mitchell Platts

The Americans have changed their selection procedure for the Ryder Cup in order that their Open and PGA champions will definitely play in the 1984 match at the Belfry. Last year Larry Nelson (US Open champion) failed to qualify because of a lack of points and Hal Sutton (US PGA champion) was ineligible because he had not served the required five years to become a member of the PGA of America.

For next year, the Open and PGA champions will automatically qualify, regardless of their points situation or membership status, although that will be the only method for a non-member of the PGA of America to win a place. The 12-man team will, as usual, be taken predominantly from the money list although the qualifying period will now be from the first event of the 1983 calendar through to the US PGA Championship in August. In recent years the final segment of the previous season has started the qualifying period.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Case and Pinner called in

By Keith Macklin

The withdrawal of the captain, Trevor Skerrett, and David Hall from the team to tour Australia has opened the way for Brian Case (Wigan) and Harry Pinner (St Helens) to join the Great Britain training squad.

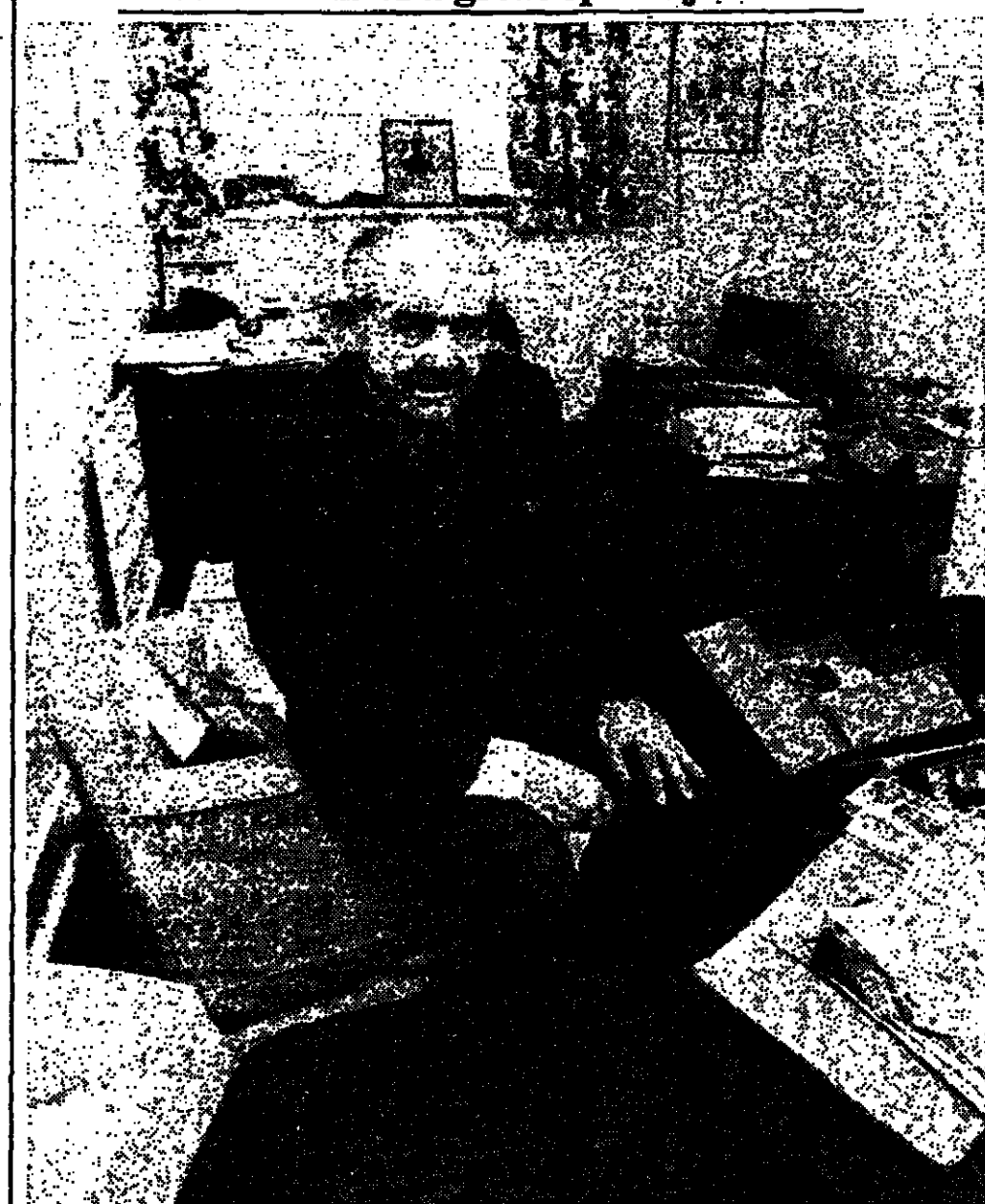
Case, an outstanding forward in Wigan's cup semi-final win over York, is a hard-grafting forward, while Pinner is a constructive ball player in the Hall mould. Pinner is on a short holiday in Blackpool at the moment, and will find a letter containing the news when he returns.

The application from a Mansfield consortium to join the second division next season was taken a stage further yesterday, when a deputation from the League visited Mansfield Town football club's Field Mill ground. The deputation consisted of the general secretary, David Oxley, the public relations officer, David Howes, and the finance officer, Rowlands Davis. Mansfield's application will be considered by representatives at their meeting in April.

Tickets are selling fast at Wigan, where the club's achievement in reaching Wembley for the first time since 1970 is causing long queues outside the Central Park ground. "At the rate the Wigan supporters are buying tickets, we could have a sell-out," League secretary said. The second semi-final will be played between Leeds and Widnes at Swinton on Saturday.

Following the withdrawal of Skerrett from the Australia tour due to knee injuries, a new captain will not be announced immediately. The full touring party will be announced on April 16, when the captain's name will be released.

Recollections of a great sports journalist



1984: Frank Rostrom at home with his memories (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Taking a slow boat to the Games and seeing stars

The sporting world has indeed turned upside down. The Olympic Games of 1932 were, perhaps, the last of a generation nostalgically portrayed by *Chariots of Fire* and as they return to Los Angeles in July, there are those who wonder if anything at all of the Olympic ethic will survive beyond.

In such a climate, it seems worthwhile to reflect on the mood of 52 years ago, and who better to consult than Frank Rostrom, my former *Daily Express* colleague, now retired, who was at the time manager of the South African boxing team which won two gold medals and a bronze.

Rostrom, who has spent an energetic lifetime in journalism as tennis, cricket and, between times, war correspondent, has the distinction of once having boxed three improbable exhibition rounds with Primo Carnera, the towering Italian heavyweight champion. That pace-setter of Beaverbrook editors, Christiansen, discovering that his new, young reporter was former junior middleweight champion of South Africa, was quick to spy a publicity stunt when Carnera came to fight in London.

The saucy Frank, who on his own admission was a bit of a footwork fancy dan, and who would have been murdered over longer-round distances had he ever accepted professional offers as a senior welterweight, caught the immobile and amiable Primo with his surprise "pivot" punch: the Ambling Alp, fortunately, could not be bothered to respond to exhortation from the spectators - who had paid five shilling and thereby rendered Rostrom professional - and the *Express* proudly carried a picture of the Rostrom punch, both his feet almost a foot off the ground as he reached for the lofty jaw. But they mis-spelt his first ever by-line!

What Rostrom remembers as much as anything of '32 was the long, relaxed journey, together with the British and Hungarian teams, by liner from Southampton to Montreal, then competing in matches against the Canadians, before continuing by special train across the continent to the west coast, stopping for occasional celebrity welcomes upon the way. Not then, however, the intense preparation of our contemporary gladiators, training avidly right up to the moment of the event.

Unpretentious ambassador who carried the flag

Rostrom recalls: "Whenever we broke the journey, there was no question of anyone taking exercise. A bit of loosening up, maybe. At Albuquerque, many of us went for a trip on the lake. We regularly encountered huge, cheering crowds, and most of them were straining to catch a glimpse of Burghley."

The star was undoubtedly the late Marquis of Exeter, winner of the 400 metres hurdles in the previous Games in Amsterdam, blond aristocratic token of Couberin's ideology, who would throughout his own lifetime spiritedly defend the dying creed of privileged amateurs. At every stop, mostly casually dressed in shorts, he was demanded for autographs: His Hurling Highness or Lord Dave as the American press termed him.

He was, Rostrom says, an admirable and unpretentious ambassador - though his effort in three events this time brought only a silver in the 4 x 400 relay. Fifth in the high hurdles, he was at one time in the lead in the 400 hurdles, only to fade to fourth by inches in the last few yards, the gold going to Bob Tisdall.

It was Burghley, incidentally, who lapped the quadrangle while the clock struck 12, not Abrahams, and at Trinity not Sidney Sussex, as suggested by *Chariots*. And those of us who were severe on Daley Thompson for declining to carry the flag for England in the Commonwealth Games in Brisbane ought perhaps to reflect that Burghley, then whom there was to be no truer IOC member, decided to miss the opening ceremony, only changing his mind when he learnt that his leading 400 hurdles rival, Morgan Taylor (bronze) would be carrying the American flag.

Rostrom recalls that it was the effort by Los Angeles to build the first ever Olympic Village which helped assure them of the award of the Games; and their further offer, in 1930 in the face of continuing world-wide recession, to feed, house and locally transport the competitors for only two dollars a day - less than 50p in those days, though you could buy a good lunch for 9p - which guaranteed that 1,500 competitors arrived from 34 nations: rather short of Juan Samaranch's ambition of 140 in '84.

Rostrom: "The organizing committee also got an assurance from the hotels that there would be no increases for spectators. The village, Mexican ranch-style bungalows, was on Baldwin Heights, only minutes from the stadium, with cool breezes and beautiful Pacific view, long before the era of

smog! There was a special law to permit extension of the water supply beyond the L.A. city boundary, and we had no stomach epidemics. There was every sort of ethnic cooking available. If the men's facilities were in some respects otherwise austere, the women were luxuriously accommodated in an hotel on Wilshire Boulevard.

"I was all so much more pleasant than Berlin in '36, where there was overbearing military organization. The climate was perfect, the stadium was often sold out with tickets at five dollars or less, and there were many world and Olympic records. The film era of Hollywood had by then established international fame, yet now it was the film stars, such as Douglas Fairbanks and Mary Pickford, who were seeking to meet the famous athletes.

There was a ball at the Biltmore on Grand Avenue. Every idol was there, from Clark Gable to Carole Lombard. The competitors had never known anything like it: a mere tap on the shoulder during a waltz, an 'Excuse me', and you were dancing with Norma Shearer. You can imagine it was pretty difficult getting the boxers back to bed in the village!"

The boxers were able to train at Jack Dempsey's gymnasium at a hotel in Santa



1929: Rostrom, middleweight champion

Barbara, "where we had to pay twenty dollars to amateur sparring partners. I would like to be sure that all the American boxers complied with the Olympic Charter. The sensation of the games had occurred just before the start, when Paavo Nurmi, multiple medal winner of the three previous Games, was barred for being professional.

It was most foreigners' first experience of traffic lights. A bell sounded for pedestrians when they changed, and the joke was that one of the less cerebral South African fighters came out swinging both hands every time he crossed the road. There was also another new experience for white South Africans: living side by side in sporting and social equality with coloured opponents. As Rostrom recounts: "At home I always used to spar regularly, in private, with an African who was our cook."

Rostrom's coup of the Games was a foretaste of journalistic wit for the *Express*. A society lady gave his team as mascot a french poodle, shaven but for his head and tail mane, and virtually unknown in California. Asked about the animal, Rostrom quipped that it was called a South African Lion Dog, progeny of an illicit union in the bush. With a straight face, the *Los Angeles Times* ran the story.

David Miller

RUGBY UNION

English pair called up for World team

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

Two England players, Trick, Bath wing, and Scott, Cardiff's captain and number eight, have been added to the Welsh President's World Team to play Crawley's Welsh at Llanelli next Tuesday. The game is the hors d'oeuvre to the main feast at Cardiff, on April 7 when Wales celebrates the completion of the rebuilding programme at the National Stadium.

The Scottish and French contingents of the World squad will not arrive before next Tuesday, and with the decision of Colclough, the England lock, to withdraw from international competition, Scott plays in the second row where he partners the All Black, Whetton.

Crawley's have had to make two changes to their original selection: Burgess, the former Ebbw Vale flanker, has been injured playing for his Italian club, Brescia, and James, the Bridgend prop, withdrew after his employers, the Mid-Glamorgan County Council indicated they might be unwilling to grant him leave of absence to tour Canada with his club this summer if he appears against a side containing South Africans. Their places have gone to Flower (Newbridge) and Morgan, the Newport prop.

Crawley's join the exodus of British teams this weekend to take part in the ninth annual Cathay Pacific Hong Kong Bank International Sevens, in Hong Kong, where Australia defend the trophy.

The Public School Wanderers who include the Scots, Baird and Paxton, Crawley's (with the Englishmen, Glynn George and Swift), and the Irish Wolfhounds (with another Englishman, Cusworth, in their ranks), will join the French Barbarians, New Zealand, and a host of others.

Court move by Brixham

Brixham, are considering taking the Rugby Football Union to court for banning them from playing first-team matches for the rest of the season. Their solicitor is taking advice from a London barrister.

They are holding a series of meetings this week to consider what the players and club members want to do.

If Brixham go to court they will seek a suspension of the ban while a date is fixed for the hearing, which would enable them to fulfil April fixtures.

More rugby, page 23

CRICKET

N Zealand poised to win Test series

Colombo (Agencies) - Geoff Howarth looks likely to celebrate his thirty-third birthday here today by leading New Zealand to victory in the third and final Test match against Sri Lanka and so winning the series.

New Zealand dominated the fourth day yesterday, by building up a first innings lead of 203 and had Sri Lanka in great difficulty by close of play at 59 for three.

Hadlee's pace was again a torment to Sri Lanka although his aggressive use of the bouncer caused him to be involved in an argument with one of the umpires. Hadlee dismissed the two opening batsmen, Westmeyer and Kaluperumb, both being caught in the slips by Conery.

The New Zealand off spinner, Bracewell, took the other wicket - Madugalle, who had scored a fluent 38 - and Sri Lanka ended the day still 134 behind with seven wickets remaining. The match ends today.

New Zealand, leading 1-0 and seeking to win their first overseas series since beating Pakistan 1-0 in 1969, resumed on 322 for five after Tuesday's rest day. They were all out for 459 in reply to Sri Lanka's 256.

Reid was New Zealand's most successful batsman with a career-best 180. He and Conery (92) put on

133 together which is a Test record for a sixth-wicket partnership against Sri Lanka.

SRI LANKA:
First innings 256 (R S Madugalle 88 not out; R J Hadlee 5 for 71, S J Crawford 5 for 63, 10.5 de Silva not out)

Second Innings:
S Westmeyer c Conery b Hadlee 18
R S Madugalle c Wright b Bracewell 36
R Ranasinghe not out 36
D S de Silva not out 0
Extras (4 b, 1 n-b, 4) 9

Total (4 wickets): 459
R Ranasinghe, R Dias, D Mendis, 18 de Alwis, J Amerasinghe, V John to bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-83, 3-83.
BOWLING: Hadlee 9-4-10-2, Chelfield 5-1-22-1, M D Crowe 5-2-15-0, Bracewell 5-2-12-1, Reid 10-4-4.

New Zealand: First Innings
G P Howarth b-o b Ranasinghe 70
J G Wright c de Alwis b Ranasinghe 18
J F Reid c de Alwis b Ranasinghe 46
S J Scott b-o 18
M D Crowe c de Alwis b Ranasinghe 46
J J Conery b-o 18
J J Conery c de Alwis b Ranasinghe 52
R J Hadlee b-o 42
D S de Silva b-o 42
J J Bracewell c Kaluperumb b de Silva 0
E J Chelfield not out 21
Extras (4 b, 1 n-b, 5 w, 2) 21

Total (1): 459
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-23, 3-132, 4-214, 5-253, 6-367, 7-391, 8-428, 9-459.
BOWLING: John 37-5-98-3, Ranasinghe 40-3-129-3, Ranasinghe 15-5-18-4, de Silva 4-4-25-2, Amerasinghe 30-4-73-2, Kaluperumb 10-2-

Pakistanis' fitness doubts

Karachi - Zaheer Abbas and Javed Miandad are among the Pakistan players who are producing medical fitness certificates for the selection

for the selection of the Pakistan team for the inaugural Asia Cricket Cup beginning in Sharjah on April 6. Both players have produced medical

fitness certificates for the selection of the Pakistan team for the inaugural Asia Cricket Cup beginning in Sharjah on April 6. Both players have produced medical

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CANOEING: SMITH MAKES A SPLASH AND HOLDS THE LEAD

Mike Smith, of Leeds Canoe Club, who holds the overall lead at the halfway stage of the Rapid Racing Championship, sponsored by Lavenham, after two races on the River Trywerya at Bala in North Wales. Smith, aged 19, from Sheffield, led the 40-canoe field home in the opening race, one hundredth of a second ahead of the French wild-water champion, Jean-Louis Leroux, from Brest. In the second race Smith finished less than half a second behind John Dunsmuir, of Leamington CC. Two more races, both run today, will decide the championship. (Photograph: Ian Stewart).

YACHTING

Phillips is equipped to take on the best

By John Nicholls

When the Observer/Europe 1 single-handed transatlantic race (Ostar) starts from Plymouth on June 2, one of the best prepared boats will surely be Peter Phillips' Transcaveat Seaway. Although launched in 1982, when she was called Liverty Doll, the 60-foot ketch has always looked upon this year's Ostar as her ultimate goal.

Her first event was the 1982 Round Britain race, in which she was placed fourth, since when she has sailed and raced over 25,000 miles. A recent refit, made possible by her new sponsors (Transcaveat are an electronics company), has eliminated 600lb of surplus weight from her displacement, and made her one of the best equipped yachts in the fleet of 100.

The centrepiece is a fully computerized navigation and self-steering system, which will allow Phillips to concentrate all his attention on sailing the boat at maximum speed. This is impressive, but he claims to have reached a maximum of 26 knots while sailing from Plymouth to the start in eight hours, a few days ago.

Next Tuesday, Transcaveat Seaway leaves from Plymouth where she is entered in a 1,000-mile solo race followed by an inshore series for multi-hulls at La Trinite. Then she comes back to Plymouth for the Crystal Trophy, a 26-knot race, which finishes in Plymouth in time for the Ostar.

Robin Knox-Johnston has withdrawn his entry from the Ostar, as his new sloop, the 30-foot ketch, is finished in time. His sponsors, British Airways, have extended their support for this race to Bill Homewood, an American employee of theirs for 23 years, whose boat The Third Turtle has been renamed British Airways II.

Owens tribute
Berlin (AFP) - A West Berlin street adjoining the Olympic stadium has been renamed Jesse Owens Avenue in tribute to the black American athlete who won four gold medals at the 1936 Berlin Olympics in the presence of Hitler. Owens, died in 1980 at the age of 66.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First Division (7.45) Derby v. Sheffield Wednesday; Second Division (7.45) Port Vale v. Barnsley; ATHLETIC LEAGUE: Huddersfield v. Middlesbrough; SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier Division (5.15) Southampton v. Ipswich; Second Division (5.15) Exeter v. Plymouth; SOUTHERN SENIOR CUP: Semi-final (5.15) Exeter v. Plymouth; REPRESENTATIVE: Rugby Union v. Football (8.00) Exeter v. Plymouth.

RUGBY UNION
HOCKEY: Belfast v. Belfast (8.00) Belfast v. Belfast; HOCKEY: Belfast v. Belfast (8.00) Belfast v. Belfast; HOCKEY: Belfast v. Belfast (8.00) Belfast v. Belfast.

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ATHLETICS: BRITAIN'S BEST STAYS SILENT ON MISS BUDD

Mrs Sly chases fitness not South African rival

By David Powell

The marathon boom will cross new frontiers on September 9 when two races over the distance finish in one town at the same time (David Powell writes). The number of marathons in Britain has grown from a handful in 1981, when the first London Marathon was held, to 136 last year; but Gravesend is to be unique in hosting two on one day.

Sections of both courses overlap and, since neither race director is able to change his date, an agreement has been reached whereby runners from one event will use the left-hand side of the road while competitors in the other use the right.

The events concerned are the North Kent Marathon, now established as the Kent championship, and the quadrathlon, an endurance race comprising swimming, race walking and cycling before reaching its climax with a marathon.

The North Kent is traditionally held in early September, but the quadrathlon has had to switch from August to September because of the late start of the school year.

It is not available at a time when the tides are favourable for the swim.

Wendy Sly, whose established position as Britain's top woman middle distance runner is threatened by the arrival in England of Zola Budd, yesterday said that she is not concerned over the young South African's application for a United Kingdom passport. According to Mr Taylor, she is prepared to accept the conclusions reached by government and sports officials and Mrs Sly's only wish is to recover her own fitness and be at her best in time for the Olympic trials in June.

To that end she has been encouraged by the improvement in her sore right Achilles tendon which prevented her from competing in the world cross-country championships in New York on Sunday. She hopes to return to racing in a one-mile event in Atlantic City in two weeks time, not having competed since she finished second to Grete Waitz over 15 kilometres in Florida on February 11.

Mrs Sly, aged 24, placed fifth in the world championship 3,000 metres in Helsinki last August and is said by Mr Taylor to be thinking more of the Russians, of Marica Puica, the Romanian holder of the world cross-country championship, and of Mary Decker, the United States, the world 3,000 metres champion, than she is of Miss Budd.

"Budd" is not interested in Zola Budd, Mr Taylor said. "All she wants to do is concentrate on her own training." Mrs Sly is, apparently, unwilling to discuss publicly Miss Budd's desire to run for Britain at the Olympic Games in August and has asked Mr Taylor to keep secret her training headquarters in Florida.

So, with Miss Budd hiding behind the shield of a national newspaper and Mrs Sly under protection from her coach, it was left yesterday to Britain's No 2 3,000 metres runner, Jane Furniss, to improve the Home Office and athletics officials to make a quick decision over whether or not that with conditions winter training he might have reduced his best of 5min 17sec by as much as 10 seconds but added that his prospects were good in view of the fact that he does not have to run the Olympic trials.

Reitz prepares to gamble in Olympic final

Colin Reitz, pre-selected for Britain for the 3,000 metres steepclimb at the Olympic Games next August, is preparing to take a chance in the final, hoping that it will bring him a gold medal. Reitz, who was third in the world championship in Helsinki last August, said: "This time I must gamble and be prepared to go to the front 1,000 metres from home to try to stretch the others out because I will always lose a sprint over the final 200 metres."

Reitz, who has suffered repeated setbacks with his winter training, breaking a toe, then sustaining a knee injury, remains confident of his ability to win in Los Angeles. "If I didn't think I could win the Olympic title I would pack up racing right now. I showed what I can do by taking the world bronze and I am determined not to go backwards."

Reitz, aged 23, from Essex, added that with conditions winter training he might have reduced his best of 5min 17sec by as much as 10 seconds but added that his prospects were good in view of the fact that he does not have to run the Olympic trials.

Reitz, who has suffered repeated setbacks with his winter training, breaking a toe, then sustaining a knee injury, remains confident of his ability to win in Los Angeles. "If I didn't think I could win the Olympic title I would pack up racing right now. I showed what I can do by taking the world bronze and I am determined not to go backwards."

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Sales and Marketing

SALES PROFESSIONALS

With the market leader in personal productivity software

LOTUS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION is the world's foremost applications software development company and has been market leader in the USA for every one of the last 52 weeks with its revolutionary LOTUS 1-2-3 software package developed for the IBM personal computer. LOTUS 1-2-3 has been adapted to run on seven brands of p.c. in the UK including IBM, DEC, Wang and Texas Instruments.

The success of LOTUS 1-2-3 in the USA and UK is being followed up with major enhancements in the newly announced SYMPHONY multi-dimensional business tool which promises to rival the success of LOTUS 1-2-3. LOTUS is also producing a SYMPHONY style product for Apple's Macintosh.

The establishment of the UK operation in Windsor heralds a major business thrust to exploit the technology and the marketing skills which have generated revenues in the first year of £53 million. To lead this thrust we need four top-flight sales professionals (male or female) with the ability, energy levels and ambition to match our products.

LOTUS Sales Manager

Based at our UK headquarters in Windsor, this is a challenging opportunity to build a lively new sales team for LOTUS 1-2-3 and SYMPHONY.

Essentially, you must have previous experience as a Line Manager running a sales operation, preferably in computers, software or advanced office equipment. You must also have experience of the UK business software industry. As well as a proven personal sales record, you should be skilled in man-management and be able to get the best from the human resources under your control. Experience of working with distributors and dealers is an advantage.

LOTUS Regional Sales Managers

Either Windsor or North of England based and reporting to the Sales Manager, your role will be to liaise closely with the distributor and, aided by excellent administrative and technical support, you will be responsible for the dealers in your area and for working with them to provide training and corporate account support.

Other aspects of the role include responsibility for regional and national exhibitions and, since you will operate in a self-through capacity you will be expected, after comprehensive product training, to be able to demonstrate the full capabilities and benefits of the software in all its related aspects.

In order to have gained the level of hardware and software knowledge that is required, you will need experience and proven sales ability in office communications or other high technology businesses involving mini/micro-computer applications. Previous experience of working through dealers/distributors would be very useful.

LOTUS Corporate Account Manager

You will be an experienced negotiator at senior level with a solid sales track record and a minimum of three years experience with IBM entry systems or their equivalent. You should also be experienced in, and comfortable with, business applications software.

Responsible to the Sales Manager you will handle major corporate accounts in conjunction with LOTUS dealers as well as liaising and negotiating with major hardware manufacturers and other OEMs.

All of these positions offer tremendous opportunities for growth and advancement and carry a high basic salary, plus an excellent benefits package, including company car, BUPA, life insurance etc.

We are in a hurry to fill these positions so call Windsor (STD 0753) 840281 and speak to David Konrath, the consultant who is advising.

LOTUS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION,
Consort House, Victoria Street, Windsor, Berks.

Lotus

What are you doing with your science degree or A'levels?

If you're looking for a challenge, we can provide it. With our in-depth product and sales training and your

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... earning an excellent salary, and choosing your company car from a particularly wide range.

Roussel Laboratories is part of the world's largest and most innovative ethical pharmaceutical company. We, and our sister division, Cassenne, have a number of outstanding career opportunities to offer dynamic, ambitious and articulate men and women in territories throughout England:

• Birmingham • Cambridge/Colchester/Chelmsford/Hertford • Cheltenham/Hertford • Manchester/Macclesfield/Stockport • Nottingham/Lincoln • Sheffield/Cheshirefield • South-West London/Surrey.

To be considered, you should be aged 21-35 and preferably live in or close to the area in which you want to operate.

If you've had sales experience in the medical or consumer field, so much the better... but it's by no means essential.

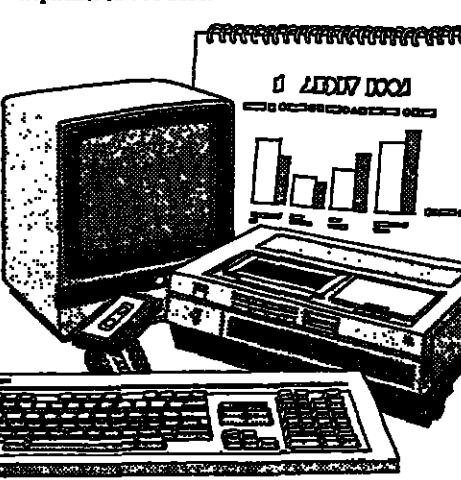
What is much more important is that you have a friendly, outgoing personality... the confidence to deal with hospital doctors, general practitioners, pharmacists and nurses... the ability to absorb technical detail... and a clean driving licence.

If you have the drive to succeed and make your mark in a highly competitive environment, we'll give

you all the encouragement you can take to make the most of the best career progression scheme in the pharmaceutical industry.

We provide all the benefits you would expect of an internationally respected organisation: salary reviewed twice a year, generous monthly allowances, free family BUPA, free life and personal accident insurance, and contributory pension.

If you are determined to make better use of your talents, ring or write for an application form to Mrs Elizabeth Bedford, Roussel Laboratories Limited, Roussel House, Wembley Park, Middlesex HA9 0NF. Telephone: 01-903 1454.



ROUSSEL
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Selling to Architects

TECHNICAL SALES REPRESENTATIVES

1. North West England

2. London

If you have live contacts with architects and specifiers in either of the above areas then Mellows, Mett (a Member of the RTZ Group), a major force in the metal window industry, now embarked on a vigorous programme of expansion, would like to hear from you.

Excellent salary/commission package, car, pension scheme plus large company benefits.

Early application with detailed C.V. to:-
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METTAS LIMITED, RIDGERS ROAD,
WEST BROMWICH, WEST MIDLANDS B71 1BS

EXPERIENCED SALES PERSON

Age 22-35 required for expanding West End Stationery Company, good commission.

Tel: 381 6403/6

PROMOTIONS COMPANY

Requires a Sales Executive to promote our Sports Tournaments. Age 25-35 with proven sales record and own car. c. £10,000 p.a. Contact

Peter Carruthers on 01 734 5572

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Microphax Ltd, a major supplier of microfilm equipment, accessories and supplies, require a person to develop microfilm consumable sales in London and the South. Previous experience with microfilm consumables is preferred. Benefits include an attractive starting salary, commission and a company car.

Write with details to: Ann Short, Microphax Ltd, 36 Nuffield Way, Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 1TF.

GRADUATE TRAINEES

Sales and Administration

A fast growing, profitable division of a UK public company is offering a unique opportunity for two graduates, aged 21-24, with a minimum 2.2 degree.

A programme of work experience will include a broad yet detailed involvement in the commercial activities of the division and lead towards significant career opportunities.

Applicants should write, enclosing a CV, to Managing Director, BVI plc, Garth Road, Morden, Surrey, SM4 4LP.

International Appointments

Oil and Gas Group

Norsk Hydro's Oil and Gas Group is responsible for the company's exploration activities, the control of field development, plans where Norsk Hydro is operator and the supervision of the company's interest in not operated licenses.

Offshore Northern Norway, Norsk Hydro, is currently participating in

oil and gas exploration on 13 licences, on 6 of which the company is the responsible operator. The company's Harstad office has a total staff of 50, of whom 20 are geologists and geophysicists, engaged in exploration activities on the continental shelf of Northern Norway. An additional expansion is expected during 1984.

Operations Geologist - Harstad

In connection with future drilling activity we are looking for an experienced geologist to work as an Operations geologist in a newly formed Operations Geology Group in our Harstad Office.

A strong command of written and spoken English is necessary.

We offer a challenging position in an expanding organisation working in a largely unexplored area of the Norwegian continental shelf.

The company will provide accommodation and pay moving expenses.

For additional information contact
- Svein Ivar Løvestad, Oslo tel. 02/54 39 20 or
- Jan Amundsen, Harstad tel. 082/74 233.

Duties will include:

- planning the geological evaluation of wells
- overseeing and reporting on day to day operations
- contact with service companies, partners, the Norwegian authorities
- presentation of the well results at technical meetings.

The successful candidates should have a honours degree in geology, a solid background as a well site geologist and preferably, previous experience with operational geology. An initial period of orientation on company operational procedures will take place in our Harstad office or in our geological operations group in Bergen or Oslo. Applicants with a strong background and experience may be considered for the position as supervisor for the operations geology group.

Applications together with copies of degrees and references should be sent within 12.4.84 in an envelope marked "Confidential 916" to

Norsk Hydro a.s.

Personal Dept.,

Kanebogen,

Boks 61,

9401 Harstad,

Norway.

HYDRO

Public Appointments

SCSS

TENANT PARTICIPATION ADVISORY SERVICE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

The Tenant Participation Advisory Service (TPAS) promotes the development of Tenant Participation and Housing Co-operatives in Scotland. Based in Glasgow, the project works closely with Tenant Associations and Local Authorities in local areas throughout Scotland. We wish to appoint a full time person to join our team. The contract will be until 31st March, 1985. Salary AP 5, £5,000 - £10,500.

The Tenant Participation Advisory Service is a project of the Scottish Council of Social Services. For further details and application form please apply to: David Kelly, Administrator, Scottish Council of Social Services, 20 Grosvenor Crescent, Edinburgh, EH7 4GN. Tel: 011 225 2252. Applications open to both men and women. Closing date for applications: 2nd April, 1984.

TRENT REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

ASSISTANT TREASURER

(Supplies)

SALARY SCALE 19: £10,350-£12,615

An Accountant or Economics graduate is required for this new and challenging post in the Regional Treasurer's Department. The Trent Region has already made considerable progress in the development of the Regional Supplies Organisation. The person appointed will be responsible for the financial management and administration of the Region's Supplies Organisation. The post involves a high degree of responsibility and requires a high level of initiative and resourcefulness. The successful candidate will be responsible for the financial management and administration of the Region's Supplies Organisation. The post involves a high degree of responsibility and requires a high level of initiative and resourcefulness.

Applications from suitably qualified graduates should be sent to: The Regional Treasurer's Department, Trent Regional Health Authority, Trent House, 100 Victoria Road, Nottingham NG1 1JF. Tel: 0535 25511. Closing date: 10th April, 1984.

The Conservative Research Department

The Conservative Research Department requires a small number of desk officers. A selection board will take place on 11th/12th May.

Applications are invited from graduates in their second or third year who are interested in gaining experience of practical politics. Such appointments would normally run for a term of between two and four years.

Please send curriculum vitae by 30th April to the Director, at 32 Smith Square, S.W.1, detailing age, academic record, employment, political experience and range of interests.

PR MAN/GIRL FRIDAY FOR MAJOR CHARITY EVENT

Wanted young, energetic, enthusiastic for exciting PR job for 3 months starting now.

Limited Financial rewards, but would gain invaluable experience. Driving license essential.

Apply with CV to: R.N.L.I., "ROUND BRITAIN" WIND-SURF,

44, Colindale Road, London NW9 5JQ

BANKING AND ACCOUNTANCY APPOINTMENTS

BOOKKEEP/ACCOUNTANT STRANGEWAYS

Strangeways needs someone to bookkeep/ACCOUNTANT department. Must have experience in property, insurance, and other related areas. Salary negotiable.

Please write to: Christopher Strangeways, 3 Holland Street, W8,

or telephone 937 8462.

IS THERE ANY YOUNG MERCHANT who would like to change careers and come to an old established and aggressive bank where he would have the scope for advancement? Write to: The CV Box No 2504H The Times.

KING KHALID UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL KING SAUD UNIVERSITY RIYADH, SAUDI ARABIA

CARDIAC CATHETERIZATION LABORATORY TECHNICIANS

Excellent career opportunities exist for the above staff at King Khalid University Hospital, the teaching hospital of King Saud University, Riyadh. The hospital opened in January 1982 and is a splendid equipped facility of 670 beds.

Applicants should be suitably qualified and have 2-3 years experience of working in a busy Cath Lab. They should be familiar with ECG monitoring, data recording and angiographic techniques.

Benefits include:

- Competitive tax-free salaries based on qualifications and experience.
- Free furnished accommodation.
- Monthly transport allowance (or transportation in lieu).
- 45 days annual paid leave.
- Round trip airfare ticket to Riyadh
- 1 year contract renewable.

Interested applicants should send a complete resumé together with copies of qualification certificates to:

Dr Inayat Hussain
Director of Cardiac Cath Lab
Department of Medicine Box No 38
King Khalid University Hospital
PO Box 7805
Riyadh
SAUDI ARABIA 11472

A copy of the resumé only should be sent to:

Mr J Ashton
King Saud University Office
29 Belgrave Square
London SW1X 8GB

ULTRASONS

Responsable de Laboratoire

Nos résultats en France et à l'Étranger sont dus, pour une grande part, à la réussite de nos équipes de Recherche Appliquée. Elles travaillent dans des domaines différents, tels que la mécanique, le traitement de signal, les automatismes,...

Le Responsable du Laboratoire Ultrasons que nous recherchons nous aidera à renforcer notre potentiel d'innovation technique.

Profil :
• vous êtes Ingénieur diplômé Grande École spécialiste des Ultrasons.

• votre expérience de chercheur vous permet de maîtriser les activités d'un laboratoire: animation technique, gestion humaine et financière.

Mission :
• mettre au point des produits industriels réalisables.

Perspectives :
La réussite dans ce poste, où recherche fondamentale et appliquée sont étroitement liées, vous assurera des perspectives d'évolution très motivantes.

Lien de travail : banlieue Sud de Paris.

Merci d'adresser votre candidature (lettre manuscrite, CV détaillé, photo et prétentions) ss réf. 80806 ST à notre Conseil: MILO MRH - 43 bis, bd Victor-Hugo - 92200 NEUILLY-SUR-SEINE (FRANCE).

MILO M.R.H
FRANCE

Public Appointments

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR

Around £10,000 per annum

Central London Based

Required for organisation specialising in Worldwide Provision of Information on Labour Law and Employment conditions.

Candidates should have basic, accounting experience/qualifications, ability to deal with invoicing, subscriptions, salary administration, international transactions etc and willingness to work as part of a team.

Applications marked confidential with full curriculum vitae by Monday April 9th to
Times Box No 2504H The Times

Sales and Marketing

National Sales Manager

Business Machines Distributor

£20,000+

We are the sole national distributor of a range of business equipment products sold primarily through an extensive network of dealers in the UK. We are a member of a fast growing public group of companies and as part of our continued expansion we wish to appoint a professional Sales Manager with a sound knowledge of the industry and an established record of high personal sales and negotiating ability.

You will be responsible for the motivation, leading and control of a field sales force, planning sales forecasts and budgets, and personally developing certain major and wholesale outlets. A knowledge of marketing would be useful. You will be expected to make a positive contribution to our plans for expansion and will play an active part in these successful negotiations.

The importance of this position will be reflected in the terms offered, including an appropriate company car and an attractive benefits package; the promotional prospects are excellent.

Please write in confidence, with full CV, to The Managing Director, A.P. Collings, Business Machines Ltd, 3 White Horse Lane, WYTHAM, Notts NG21 2SQ.

To advertise in
The Times or
The Sunday Times
please telephone
01-837 3311 or 3333

General Appointments

Product Marketing Professionals

Office Automation Systems
£15-18,000 + car

Data Logic, the U.K.'s leading systems and software house will be launching, over the next 12 months, a series of products in the area of Office Automation and associated advanced technologies. These products will give us an undisputed leadership which will be achieved through the integration of extensive system and applications software, developed by Data Logic, in partnership with our parent company Raytheon, and hardware supplied by the world's leading O.E.M. supplier, Convergent Technologies.

We now wish to recruit highly motivated and ambitious Product Marketing Professionals who will join a successful but expanding team. You will take complete responsibility for the management of one or more products and you will be tasked with formulating the marketing plan and sustaining a strategy to maximise profit derived from sales of those products.

We are looking for males or females, educated to degree standard with a minimum of five years in the computer industry and at least two years spent in product marketing, probably with a computer manufacturer. Familiarity with the IBM environment and of UNIX would be an advantage.

To apply for one of these outstanding opportunities at our Head Office in London, please write enclosing a full CV, to: Ann Simon, Divisional Personnel Manager, Data Logic Limited, 29 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JX, or telephone 01-486 7288 for an application form.

Data Logic career opportunities
The top service and systems people

Computer Centre Manager

West London c.£20,000 + car

H.B. MAYNARD is a long established and highly respected management consultancy with an international reputation for effecting productivity improvements in manufacturing industry. A major investment has been made in a sophisticated suite of software programs which substantially enhances the benefits available to their client companies. There has recently been a dramatic increase in the demand for these services.

A manager is to be appointed to take responsibility for a powerful DEC system which will be used to provide a variety of services to clients covering pre and post sales support, training, program testing and other facilities.

Candidates should have had DP management experience in a PDP 11 installation with a good understanding of relevant operating systems. A background in manufacturing control systems, particularly production control, CAD/CAM or time measurement systems would be highly advantageous. The ability to make presentations and to contribute to negotiations with customers is also important.

This position combines a highly stimulating professional environment with the opportunity to meet a wide cross section of senior management in British industry. Remuneration is unlikely to be a limiting factor and the usual large company benefits apply.

Contact Bruce Crammond on 01-631 4184 or write to him with a detailed CV, quoting Ref. 439, at: A&A Consultants (Holding) Ltd, County House, 10 Little Portland Street, London W1N 5DF.



Join the Professionals

Denise Ansell -
Age 23,
Joined Marlowe-
Sachs in June 1979.
Earnings for year
ending April 1983 -
£31,000 and BMW.
Previous occupation -
Secretary.
Previous Salary -
£4,700.

Preston Whitfield -
Age 32,
Joined Marlowe-
Sachs in March 1982.
Earnings for year
ending April 1983 -
£22,000 and BMW.
Previous occupation -
Law.
Previous Salary -
£9,800.

Marlowe-Sachs are intermediaries in the field of Unit Trusts, Pensions, Investments (onshore and offshore), and Insurance. We are expanding our operations and require intelligent, energetic individuals aged 25-40 for our Head Office in the City.

Telephone 01-242 2420
28 Greville Street, London EC1

Marlowe Sachs

International Appointments

Leading International Company in the fertiliser market, seeks

INTERNATIONAL SALES MANAGER
for U.K. subsidiary as part of their expansion plan.

THE JOB WILL INVOLVE:

Bring to our British subsidiary a logistical support in order to create and maintain good communications with head office this support should enable:

- the adaptation of French commercial techniques to the requirements of British market.
- to reinforce our sales force.
- to develop sales of our products.

Candidates between 28 and 38 years old should have a strong background in the agricultural market. This appointment would be by the French company but you will be based in U.K. with frequent visits to France. Fluency in French is essential.

Write with C.V. and photo to box no ST 94-48, THE TIMES, 8, rue Halley, 75441 PARIS Cedex 08 - FRANCE, for onward transmission.

UNIVAC DATABASE OPPORTUNITIES

Our client, L.D.C., is a computer services division of the Burton Group. Due to their continued success an additional member of the Database team is now required.

Suitable applicants will have a solid design and programming background with an in depth knowledge of COBOL, DMS1100 and QLP. They will also be familiar with DDL, SDDL, and DMU utilities.

Reporting to the Database Administrator they will play an important role in the enhancement and development of several major database projects.

L.D.C. are conveniently based in Hammersmith and operate an 1100/72 mainframe with an 1100/71 scheduled for delivery within the next few months.

The salary for this position will depend upon experience but is likely to be in the region of £13k - £14k plus substantial bonus.

For further information telephone David Butcher on

SYSTEMS SUPPORT SERVICES LTD

01-903 9648

Station House Harrow Road
Wembley Middlesex HA9 6DB



Precision Electro-mechanical Components

Southern Counties £17000 + bonus car etc

Planned expansion of this highly successful electronic/electrical components manufacturer has led to two new openings in its senior management team. The company is a UK market leader in its field and is active in high technology developments.

Manufacturing Manager

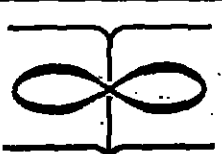
responsible for the control and development on several sites of a wide range of skilled assembly and support functions. The ideal candidate, a qualified engineer aged 28-35, will be experienced in high precision light mechanical batch production, computerised production control etc. Knowledge of high-technology manufacturing techniques would be an asset.

General Sales Manager

to lead a key team of Field Sales Managers, Sales Engineers and support staff. The role includes selling sales objectives and major customer negotiations. Candidates, 28-35 and qualified in electronic/electrical engineering, will be results-oriented and need to demonstrate performance in high technology markets (locally military/precision quality components). Please write in strict confidence with full details and quoting ref: 1485 to Michael Waggett who is advising on this appointment.

Odgers

MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS
Odgers and Co Ltd, One Old Bond St,
London W1X 3TD 01-489 8811



London Business School

PUBLICITY OFFICER

The LONDON BUSINESS SCHOOL has established an international reputation as a leader in business studies and is currently working on a number of interesting new ventures.

The School now wishes to strengthen its public relations team and has created a new senior post of PUBLICITY OFFICER, responsible to the Director of Marketing Services, who will be required to write articles of wide general interest on School affairs and to use his or her contacts with the press to obtain wide publication of these articles. The post also carries responsibility for the production of the Annual Report, other written work on School affairs, and the use of other media for publicity purposes.

To carry out these tasks the successful applicant should have proven journalistic skills, a clear interest in management education and be able to make and maintain contact with journalists and others connected with the media at national level. A substantial part-time arrangement would not be precluded.

A salary commensurate with ability and experience will be paid for this post, which will include full university superannuation benefits and an excellent working environment.

Written applications and curriculum vitae to be sent to:-
Murray Cabot, Director of Marketing Services, The London Business School, Sussex Place, Regents Park, LONDON NW1 4SA.

Sales and Marketing

FELIX

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SALES EXECUTIVES

CE20K + Car

Our client, FELIX LEARNING SYSTEMS LIMITED part of the WEBSTERS GROUP PLC is the emerging market leader in the most exciting technology growth area in the U.K. - INTERACTIVE COMMUNICATIONS.

This major expansion provides opportunities for 9 account based professional sales executives. Ideally, candidates will be aged between 22 and 35, demonstrate a successful record in direct sales, be conceptually aware with a higher than average ability to communicate at all levels.

For further details of these exciting new positions, where full training is given and immediate London interview, phone Richard Swain on 0272 213668.



ASSOCIATES (RECRUITMENT) LIMITED

Red House 126 St George Road Bristol BS1 5JW Telephone 0272 213668

Senior Systems Programmers

£15-18K starting salary

Occidental's new data centre in Aberdeen provides computer services to support the company's UK and related offices. Two IBM 3083 processors running MVS/ES2 and ACF/VTAM multi-system networking have a network of hundreds of terminals connecting IMS and TSO users with these systems and other data centres in the Americas. Currently in installation testing stages, the data centre is scheduled to begin full production operations in early May.

Experienced IMS and MVS Systems Programmers are needed to install, maintain, monitor and troubleshoot this software. The MVS environment incorporates ACF2 security and UCC - 10 tape management systems. IMS use relies heavily on ADF and the system includes LOGPLUS and UCC-10 data dictionary.

In both areas senior people who can deal comfortably with operations, programming and user staff are essential to the ongoing satisfactory performance and operation of the systems. Technical opportunities are excellent in this up-to-date hardware/software environment. XA planning and migration, DB2 and additional on-line systems are outlooked for next year.

Successful candidates will command a starting salary of between £15-18,000 depending on experience and an excellent range of benefits, including a full relocation package to facilitate your move to this highly attractive part of the country.

If you are interested in a position with Occidental telephone for further information and an application form.
Telephone Aberdeen (0224) 844838
Thursday 29th March 1200 to 1400 or 1800 to 2000 hrs.

If you prefer write to:
George Fowler,
Personnel Officer.



Occidental Petroleum (Caledonia) Limited,
1 Claymore Drive, Aberdeen AB2 8GB.

European Patents Manager

Black & Decker, a multi-national company long known for its commitment to quality and new products for home and industry is equally committed to the legal protection of its proprietary technology. In order to strengthen further its patent, trademark and licensing function, Black & Decker has created a new position of European Patents Manager.

This position will be based in Maidenhead, Berkshire and the person appointed will be responsible for directing and co-ordinating all patent, trademark, copyright and related matters for four engineering design and manufacturing centres located in the UK and on the continent.

The successful candidate should be a Chartered British Patent Agent, with a strong technical background in mechanics, electronics or physics, and 8-15 years' experience in UK and European patent, trademark and licensing matters. Capability in French or German would be highly desirable, but is not essential. The ability to co-ordinate closely and effectively with senior UK and European management, with UK/European Patent Agents, and with the Corporate Patent Department in the USA is critical. Previous experience in working with a multi-national company, on a broad range of technologies, is highly desirable.

Qualified Patent Agents having a serious interest in this challenging position are invited to telephone for an application form or submit their CV in strict confidence to: John Lea, Director of Personnel.



Black & Decker

Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 3PD.
(Tel: 062-882 2130.) Interviews will be conducted by the Corporate Director of Patents and Licensing during the week of April 9th.

DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR LOOKING FOR PROMOTION?

Clearly must be an executive with a proven record - with, almost certainly a Marketing/Selling qualification and experience. To head an expanding 2-division group.

This is a fertile opportunity for an ambitious executive to put into operation his or her own organisational thrust and ability to create and expand a growth operation, currently marketing consumer durables.

We think this executive will almost certainly be between 27-33 years of age and will need £22,000 per annum (Company profit-sharing scheme is currently being considered). To merit Board appointment after three months.

Please reply with C.V. to the Chairman,

AUSTIN THOMAS GROUP LTD.

Petgro House,
Milton Estate, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 8XR

HIGHLY EXPERIENCED person required to advise and control our small team of on US TV-Prom Funding and investment and US production, salary negotiable. Send CV to A. J. 47 Kensington High St, London W8 5SE.

DRAYCOTT'S WINE BAR. Attractive characterful person without full time employment required. Non-FTE available to run intimate Champagne and food bar. Tel: 034 6364.

INTERESTING project during April, May, Project/consultancy opportunity offered. Please contact Martin Fisher on 025 5464.

WEIGHT CONTROL Program expert. Senior leader wanted for exciting new venture central London. Tel: 033 6104-1241 for info/appointment.

DRIVERS/GUIDES required for motor coach company in Central London. Tel: 019 0262.

Public Appointments

Inner London Education Authority
Educating Safety Adviser (Prof. 'B')

Salary Range £7,470-£10,784 plus £1,347 London Weighting

The person appointed will be responsible to a Senior Safety Adviser for health and safety advisory duties covering approximately one third of LEA establishments. Candidates must be professionally qualified and have experience of safety in the field of education. Application forms and further details are obtainable from the Education Officer (EO/Ensb 18), Room 305, the County Hall, London SE1 7PB. Please enclose an SAE.

Closing date for the return of completed application forms is 18 April 1984. These posts are suitable for job sharing. LEA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

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General Appointments

HORIZONS

The Times guide to career development Help the aged - with a job

"Each day we get one day older - if we live long enough," said Groucho Marx. Certainly aging is a fact of life that affects most of us. With improved medical care, people are living longer and the proportion of older workers is increasing steadily throughout the world. In a 1979 report, *Older Workers - Work and Retirement*, the International Labour Organisation stated that "the repercussions of aging workforces are serious and getting worse". The problem in Britain is particularly acute and has been aggravated by the widespread practice of persuading older people to opt for early voluntary redundancy. Many of the mounting army of unemployed are middle-aged, people who have given years of loyal service. The vacancies advertised in the national and trade press, most of which specify age limits, provide little encouragement. Even the charity Help the Aged advertised for "a manager - age 35-45".

For some years the ILO has been urging member countries to formulate measures to eliminate age bias in employment. A growing number of countries have introduced, or intend to introduce, such legislation. The United States passed an Age Discrimination in Employment Act in 1967, which was strengthened in 1974. Since then the federal government has been investigating and prosecuting offenders vigorously. During the two years 1979/80, for example, over 100 companies were convicted. Nearly \$10m was paid in compensation to 2,000 employees who had been the victims of age discrimination practised by major corporations - Boeing, Chrysler, Coca Cola, Dow Chemicals, Dupont, Exxon, Ford.

American activity intensified last year. On March 3 the Supreme Court ruled that the federal law barring age discrimination in employment applied to state and local governments, thereby overruling the "states rights" opposition. On August 9, a federal jury found Metromedia Inc guilty of fraud in a lawsuit brought by 37-year-old Christine Craft, the first woman to "anchor" the KMBC-TV evening news in Kansas City. She contended that she was given the choice of being dismissed or resigning because of her age and appearance. "You start a male and a female out in their twenties and they are both going to get lines, bags, and wrinkles reporting murder, mayhem, and politics," said Craft. The jury found that she had been recruited for her journalistic abilities, not her appearance. Dam-

Richard Stokes speaks up for the rights of older employees

ages on the fraud charge were assessed at \$375,000 - with additional "punitive damages" yet to be determined.

In a far reaching decision, on November 7, 1983, a federal judge struck down the Internal Revenue Service's actuarial tables. These tables, which are based on the differing life expectancies of men and women, are used to determine the value for tax purposes of various types of gifts and trusts used in estate planning. They were declared unconstitutional on the grounds of age and sex discrimination.

On November 21, 1983, Marshall Field, a retail subsidiary of Batus Inc, the US holding company for British owned BAT Industries, agreed to pay \$2.5m to 100 former and current employees to settle an age discrimination suit brought by the federal government. Marshall Field had been charged with illegally dismissing, demoting, and forcing early retirement.

A month later, a federal judge in New Jersey became Santa Claus to 5,000 Xerox Corporation staff. He rejected a Xerox Corporation motion to dismiss a lawsuit brought by three former Xerox salesmen, alleging that they had been the victims of a sophisticated corporate plan designed to eject older employees. Acting for the three plaintiff salesmen, attorney Robert H. Jaffe said: "We know that there are over 5,000 people aged over 40 that Xerox have discriminated against. They have been calling us from all over the country. The company has practised a deliberate policy of weeding out older, higher paid personnel and replacing them with younger people on a lower salary." On past evidence the cost to the Xerox Corporation and the compensation to staff could be enormous. For example, over five years ago ITT was ordered to pay \$250,000 to 72 employees who had been denied promotion, despite good performance appraisal reports, because of their age.

Although few countries impose stringent penalties on the American scale, other nations have also realised that legislation does change attitudes and practices. France, Canada, Finland, Israel, and Mexico have rendered age discrimination illegal.

Australia, Norway, Sweden, and West Germany have made initial moves in the same direction. The reasons for age discrimination on both sides of the Atlantic are broadly similar - a desire to present a youthful image; the supposed conservatism of the older employee; and the rising cost of fringe benefits with age.

The overwhelming single factor, however, is the belief that older staff are not as efficient as younger employees because abilities decline with age. This supposition is seldom, if ever, exposed to the rigours of statistical and scientific analysis. The impact on the individual can be near disastrous. As one American research worker, Louis H. Albee, demonstrated in a comprehensive study: "Of the several thousand middle-aged men and women who will lose their jobs next month, only about 20 per cent, one year from now, are likely to have solved their problem to the extent that they will be working in jobs as good as the one they lost. Another 30 per cent will still be job hunting and will be quite desperate. About an equal number will have gone into business for themselves (and many will have failed, or be failing) or will have taken commission selling jobs (with few succeeding). About one-third will either have taken low-paying jobs in which they are unhappy; or will have found, and then lost, a job and will be wondering what is wrong. Some will have had a physical or mental breakdown. There will be some suicides. An alarming number of homes and marriages will have broken up."

In West Germany, Sweden, and America trade unions have negotiated job security agreements, reserved vacancies for older workers, and anti-discrimination procedures. Unfortunately the British trade unions have displayed masterly inactivity - and bodies like the CBI and the IPMA have shown no inclination to combat age discrimination.

The Government has been seeking to galvanise British industry into innovation, productivity and creativity by an amalgam of monetarism, exhortation, and tax incentives. The continuing rejection and/or under-utilisation of the over forties is bound to inhibit the economic recovery in the UK. Britain already suffers from too many damaging divisions: north v south; class stratification; political polarisation; management v labour; haves v have nots. We could do without splits between youth and experience. After all, as Robert Louis Stevenson wrote: "Old and young - we are on our last cruise."

CRUISE IN MEDITERRANEAN

Young, personable person required to cruise with current motor yacht approx. 18th June to 18 September 1984. Able to cook and assist with general duties on board. Return air ticket and generous pocket money paid. Please apply in writing, including recent photograph to R. G. Mazzocchi, 10, Aradale St, London W8 5BN.

SENIOR SALES EXECUTIVE

For Chief and Agents of 153 New Bond Street, London W1. Requires a highly qualified and experienced person with bi-lingual French and a proven sales record on the sale of high jewellery. Salary substantial and negotiable for the right candidate. Please apply in writing enclosing CV to the above.

CJA

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

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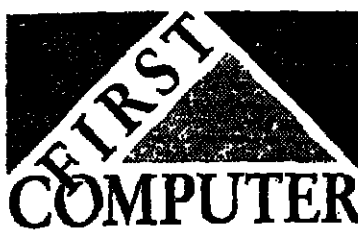
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The Key to Information Systems

Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC 1

- 6.00 **Ceefax** AM. News headlines, weather, traffic and sports bulletins. Also available to viewers with television sets with the teletext facility.
- 6.30 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. News from Debbie Rix at 6.30, 7.00, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hour. Sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; television preview at 8.55; what the papers say at 7.15 and 8.15; horoscopes at 8.33; television doctor and Glynis Christian's cookery column between 8.30 and 8.40.
- 9.00 **The Best of Collecting** News. The last in the series and there are collections of mechanical music; photographs of glamorous Hollywood stars; early keyboard instruments; and vintage sports cars (r). 9.30 **Ceefax**. 10.30 **Play School**, presented by Chloe Aschroft (r). 10.55 **Ceefax**.
- 12.30 **News Afternoon** with Richard Whitmore and Frances Coverdale. The weather prospects come from Bill Giles. 12.57 **Regional News** (London and SE only: financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles). 1.00 **Pello Mill** at One. 1.45 **King Rollo** (r). 1.50 **Bric-a-Brac** (r).
- 2.00 **In the Making**. The story of Ivan Smith, a Worcester-based blacksmith (r). 2.20 **Racing from Antares**. Live coverage of the **Kaltenberg Pils** handicap chase (2.35). The three races following this are covered on BBC 2. 3.00 **The Afternoon Show** presented by Barbara Dickson and Penny Junior. The topics include Accidents in the Home; the meaning of dreams and domestic robots.
- 3.40 **Cartoon**: Barney Bear. 3.48 **Regional News** (not London). 3.50 **Magic Roundabout** (r). 3.55 **Play School**, presented by Sheelagh Gilbey (r). 4.20 **The New Adventure of Mighty Mouse** (r). 4.25 **Jackanory**. Penelope Walton reads part four of **Cartoon**. 4.35 **Huckleberry Finn** and his friends. Part one of a 26 episode adaptation of two novels by Mark Twain (r). 5.00 **Newsworld** with Paul Hogg. 5.10 **Blue Peter** visits Churchill's underground cabinet rooms.
- 5.40 **Sixty Minutes** includes news read by Moira Stuart at 5.40; weather at 5.45; regional magazines at 5.55; and news headlines at 6.35.
- 6.40 **Doctor Who**. Colin Baker in part three (four) of **The Twin Dilemma** (Ceefax title page 170).
- 7.05 **Tomorrow's World** includes a demonstration on how a deaf person can use the phone.
- 7.30 **Top of the Pops** introduced by Mike Reid and Andy Peebles.
- 8.05 **The Living Planet**. The perennials programme of the twelve-part series written and presented by David Attenborough. The **Open Ocean** concentrates on the riches of the sea.
- 9.05 **News with John Humphrys**.
- 9.20 **Mission From Home**. Part one of a new six-part drama serial about a husband and father who goes missing along with some sensitive files from his firm. Starring Judy Lee (see Choice).
- 10.15 **Question Time**. On **RT** Robin Davis's panel are David Blackburn, Patrick Jenkin MP, Dr Madeline Potts and Baroness Seear.
- 11.15 **Computers in Control**. Part four of the plain men's guide to robotics (r).
- 11.40 **News** headlines and weather.

TV-am

- 6.25 **Good Morning Britain** presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News from Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.35 and 7.35; exercises at 6.50 and 8.15; the day's anniversaries at 7.05 and 8.05; a guest in the Spotlight at 7.20; cricket at 7.25; guest of the day, Freddie Starr at 7.40; pop video at 7.55; Tommy Boyd and his parents at 8.10; Paul Gambaccini's film review at 8.35; baby talk at 9.03.
- 9.25 **Thames news headlines**. 9.30 **For Schools**. How water is processed. 9.42 **Contest for the land**. 9.59 **Simple arithmetic**. 10.11 **Learning to play safe**. 10.28 **The skills of a politician**. 10.50 **Your living body**. 11.08 **Learning to read with Basil Brush**. 11.22 **Bringing goods from the manufacturer to the consumer**. 11.39 **With a German family on holiday in Austria**.
- 12.00 **Benny**. The first of a new series of canine adventures. 12.10 **Get Up an Go!** with Beryl Reid (r). 12.30 **The Sullivans**.
- 1.00 **News**. 1.20 **Thames news** with John Houslow. 1.30 **A Plus**. Michael O'Leary's guest is Hollywood gossip columnist, Sheila Graham. 2.00 **Crown Court**. The jury returns in the case of the Pakistani accused of assaulting a right-wing youth.
- 2.30 **Ladykillers**. The Darlingstons. A reconstruction of the Thompson and Bywaters case, introduced by Robert Morley and starring Gayle Hunnicutt, Christopher Villiers and Margaret Tyzack (r). 3.30 **Sons and Daughters**.
- 4.00 **Benny**. A repeat of the programme shown at noon. 4.15 **Battling**. Cartoon series. 4.20 **Madabout**. Matthew Kelly presents a programme about flying. With pop-star flying enthusiast, Gary Numan. 4.45 **The Book Tower**. Alan Armstrong with another selection of old and new stories. 4.55 **Crackles** (title page 170). 5.15 **The Young Doctors**.
- 5.45 **News**. 6.00 **Thames news**.
- 6.25 **Thames Sport**. Steve Rider looks at what the future holds for English cricket. Plus highlights from last night's fight between Colin Jones and Alan Branswell and last week's London ABA championships.
- 6.50 **Carry On Laughing**. A compilation of some of the funniest scenes from the Carry On series of films.
- 7.20 **Film: Diamonds Are Forever** (1971) starring Sean Connery as secret agent James Bond, briefed by M to uncover a plot by a racketeer to stockpile diamonds stolen from South Africa in the United States. Directed by Guy Hamilton.
- 9.30 **TV Eye**. Arthur Scargill, the miners' union president, in the spotlight. Five, by Alastair Burnet.
- 10.00 **News followed by Thames news headlines**.
- 10.30 **Shelley**. Fatherhood is thrust upon the academic wastrel. Starring Hugh Bennett (r).
- 11.00 **The Spanish Civil War**. The series continues with an examination of the early days of the conflict. The story of vengeance was taken by both the Republicans and Franco's Nationalists. The narrator is Frank Finlay (Oracle title page 170).
- 12.00 **Newhart**. American comedy series starring Bob Newhart. Night Thoughts.
- 12.55 **News**.



Judy Lee: Missing from Home (BBC 1, 9.25pm)

CHOICE

trying to stem the tide of hatred he once helped to lead as deputy leader of the British Movement.

● **MISSING FROM HOME**. Roger Marshall's six-part drama serial that gets under way tonight (BBC 1, 9.25) is fine except that it is cluttered with what seem like irrelevances. I say "seem" because it is conceivable that they will turn out to be vital clues in the mystery of the husband who suddenly vanishes, leaving his wife to chew on such unsuspected facts about him as his gambling at the Playboy Club, and his having consulted the firm's doctor for depression. And not only has he gone, but so have some office files containing classified information. The

CHOICE

nonplussed wife is played by Judy Lee, an attractive and intelligent actress who knows how to suggest tension without doing the conventional things with her face, voice and hands.

● **WHAT ELSE?** (Radio 3, 9.20pm), a conversation piece between a girl of 12 and the blind old man who "helps" her. She has become, selects a deceptively simple stage on which to rehearse some profound arguments about the relative truthfulness of things seen and things understood: limited objective vision versus limitless subjective vision. This translation, by Peter Mayer, from the original French text by Antoine de la Morinier, is beautifully spoken by Michael Gough and Phoebe Nicholls.

CHOICE

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BBC 2

- 8.05 **Open University: Maths**. Multiplying Matrices. 8.30 **North Westminster Community Schools**. 8.55 **Geology: Clays**. 7.20 **Social Science: The End of the Line?** 7.45 **Made Without Flaw**. Ends at 8.10.
- 9.00 **Seefax**. 9.15 **Seefax**. 9.30 **German conversation**. 9.52 **Talkabout**. 10.12 **Animals of the soil**. 10.34 **What it is like to be old**. 11.08 **Maths: odds and evens**. 11.30 **The archaeological mystery of the Danish past bog man**. 11.55 **Tennis coaching** - rallies in doubles. 12.20 **The development of women's magazines from the 17th century**. 12.45 **Micros in the classroom**. 1.10 **Working to rebuild the beauty of the countryside**. 1.38 **Salmon and the mystery of the Red Fallow**. 2.00 **You and Me**. 2.15 **The Sleeping Beauty**. 2.40 **Walters**.
- 3.00 **Racing from Antares**. Live coverage of three races, introduced by Richard Pimant. The **Cystic Fibrosis Novice Chase** (3.10) the **Holiday Inn Handicap Hurdle** (3.45); and the **Walsley Whisky Foxhunters Chase** (4.20).
- 4.35 **Ceefax**.
- 5.10 **The Gambler**. An Open University production that analyses Dostoevsky's novel (r).
- 5.35 **News summary with subtitles**.
- 5.40 **Film: The Cardinal** (1963) starring Tom Tryon, John Huston, Rex Van Dine and Barry Schneider. Sumptuous version of the novel by Henry Morton Robinson that traces the career of a priest from his ordination in 1917 to his receiving the cardinal's hat on the eve of World War Two. Directed by Otto Preminger.
- 6.00 **Food and Drink**. Henry Kelly and Susan Grossman take a day trip to Dieppe to sample the fare of a hypermarket, a ches-shop, a restaurant and a vegetable market.
- 9.00 **Nike Harding in Belfast**. The star of *Shogun* comes with a series of six programmes.
- 9.30 **Forty Minutes: Animal Antiques**. A documentary in which former Joe Hanson laments the passing of the old breeds of farm animals.
- 10.10 **Rowan and Martin's Laugh-In**. The star guest is Connie Stevens.
- 10.40 **Newnight**.
- 11.25 **We Bring You Live Pictures**. The first programme in the series tracing the history of the BBC's outside broadcasting unit (r).
- 11.59 **Open University: Density and Viscosity in Minerals**. Extraction. 12.30 **Psychology: Cognitive Maps**. Ends at 12.50.
- 14.45 **Closedown**.

CHANNEL 4

- 5.00 **People's Court**. Judge Weir in the last case of the present series rules on the case of **The Curly That Went Straight**.
- 5.30 **Chips Comic**. Fun and games at the offices of a children's magazine where, this week, the breaking of Elsa's best glass jug leads investigative reporter, Rover, to discover how a glass jug is made (r).
- 6.00 **Barriers**. Billy, an adopted teenager searching for his real parents, is in Salzburg to enter for a music scholarship.
- 6.30 **Like Other Children**. Victor Schofield's documentary that looks at the question of equal opportunities for handicapped children in schools. A number of ordinary schools are compared mentally and physically handicapped pupils, but at a time when the system of educating children with special needs is under scrutiny, this programme weighs the arguments for and against an integrated education system (r).
- 7.00 **Channel Four News** includes coverage of this afternoon's meeting of Liverpool City Council which is challenging the government's illegal budget proposals.
- 7.50 **Comment**. With his view on a matter of topical importance is Andrew Rutherford, lecturer in law at Southampton University and a specialist on the British prison system.
- 8.00 **Treasure Hunt**. The final programme of the series and Kenneth Kendall and Maria Rice reflect on the adventures of the previous 12 programmes in the company of three pairs of competitors - Richard Pailthorpe and Walter Greenway who appeared in January, Harriet and Martin Llewellyn who made an appearance in February and this month's competitors, Hazel Harrison and Sally Dyson.
- 8.30 **Sleep**. The Tates try to catch a cold. Starring: Danny contrasts Elaine's murderer.
- 9.30 **Winter Sunlight**. The final episode of the drama about Dorothy, a married pensioner who leaves her husband in an last bid to find true happiness. Dorothy plays the go-between in a rural situation between Alice and her daughter but discovers that she cannot stand as much time as she wished with Alice when she learns of her estranged husband's collapse. Starring Derek Francis and Elizabeth Sellers.
- 10.25 **The Other Face of Terror**. (See Choice).
- 11.45 **Closedown**.

Radio 4

- 6.00 **News Briefing**. 6.15 **Pennine Today**. 6.25 **Shipping**. 6.30 **Today's News**. 6.45 **Today's News**. 6.55 **Today's News**. 7.05 **Today's News**. 7.15 **Today's News**. 7.25 **Today's News**. 7.35 **Today's News**. 7.45 **Today's News**. 7.55 **Today's News**. 8.05 **Today's News**. 8.15 **Today's News**. 8.25 **Today's News**. 8.35 **Today's News**. 8.45 **Today's News**. 8.55 **Today's News**. 9.05 **Today's News**. 9.15 **Today's News**. 9.25 **Today's News**. 9.35 **Today's News**. 9.45 **Today's News**. 9.55 **Today's News**. 10.05 **Today's News**. 10.15 **Today's News**. 10.25 **Today's News**. 10.35 **Today's News**. 10.45 **Today's News**. 10.55 **Today's News**. 11.05 **Today's News**. 11.15 **Today's News**. 11.25 **Today's News**. 11.35 **Today's News**. 11.45 **Today's News**. 11.55 **Today's News**. 12.05 **Today's News**. 12.15 **Today's News**. 12.25 **Today's News**. 12.35 **Today's News**. 12.45 **Today's News**. 12.55 **Today's News**. 1.05 **Today's 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